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Celebrity p/38

Getty says he has split with wife

Plans frustrate bike advocates

CYCLISTS Plans to widen sidewalks, plant trees and eliminate street parking usually have Toronto cyclists ringing their bells in support.

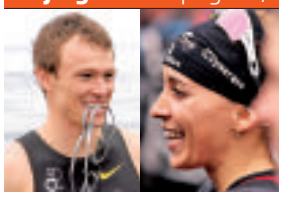
But in the case of the makeover that will make the district more attractive and pedestrian-friendly, frustrated bike advocates say they've been left out of the equation. The lack of bike lanes in the redesign of Bloor Street flies in the face of provincial planning policies that compel cities to consider the safety of cyclists and ways of reducing traffic congestion and pollution, says environmental lawyer Albert Koehl.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

World page 8

Ex-Bosnian Serb leader hid himself well

Beijing Games page 14



Triathletes all geared up

Sports page 12

Tie denies TFC national title

Standing tall

Becks in T.O.

NICK TURCHIARO/TOP NEWS

L.A. Galaxy midfielder David Beckham takes a break during a practice at BMO Field yesterday in preparation for tomorrow's Major League Soccer all-star game. Beckham and the MLS all-stars will take on England's WestHam United.

'Volatile situation'

Revenge feared for triple shooting

A local community worker says residents of the neighbourhood where three men were killed in a drive-by shooting last week are paralyzed by fear of violent retribution and wary of going outside.

Russ Ford, executive director of the Lakeshore Area Multiservice Project, who works with many at-risk youth in The East Mall and Lake Shore Boulevard West community, said youth are worried that someone will exact revenge for the killings of Adrian Bannerman, 29, Kurt Charles, 27, and Aaron MacDonald, 20.

"It's a very volatile situation," Ford said. "There are some people in the community talking about action. They're going to send out a message."

Police have taken various steps to minimize the risk. They're actively protecting witnesses they've spoken to and there is a heightened police awareness in certain parts of Etobicoke, Det.-Sgt. Frank Skubic said.

While the three men weren't saints, they "weren't 100 per cent bad," Ford said.

Residents of both communities where the men lived with their families are wary of going out on the streets, Ford said, for fear they'll be targeted or caught in the violence.

"The only thing you can do is make people aware that violence is just going to lead to more violence," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Criminal activity

- Prior to their deaths, the three men were involved in criminal activity going back several years. Court documents show the trio faced numerous charges across the GTA.

Blowing in the wind: Hundreds of U.S. bills 'gone in no time'

GOOD SAMARITANS A dozen bystanders rushed in to help a 70-year-old man after he stumbled leaving a Southern California bank, causing thousands of dollars to scatter in the wind.

Ludwig Geier says hundreds of bills were "gone in no time," flying through the air and littering the First National Bank's parking lot in Torrance on Monday.

Almost immediately, about a dozen bystanders rushed in to help. The machine shop owner says about 96 per cent of the money was found.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Trent University planning George Brown satellite program
In the latest proposed collaboration between an Ontario college and university, Trent University in Peterborough hopes to open a satellite program on the proposed waterfront campus of Toronto's George Brown College. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Bus driver trial

A Toronto school bus driver accused of drunk driving was struggling to eat a hotdog minutes before he "ripped out" of a parking lot with a bus full of children, another bus driver testified yesterday. Jerry McNeill, 59, faces charges of impaired driving, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and failure to give a breath sample to police. He appeared in provincial court for the first day of his trial yesterday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

7 UP

CD reviews of new releases from Brendan Canning, The Black Kids, Dr. Dog, Miley Cyrus, The Midway State, Buddy Guy, and She & Him, featuring actress Zooey Deschanel (above).
Also: Canada's Olympic flag-bearer will be announced today — find out who it is and why the pick was made.

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Vault fire zaps building

Outage follows Sunday's explosion on Secord Avenue

Underground hydro vaults like the one that exploded at 2 Secord Ave. trade off reliability in favour of safety and aesthetics, an official for Toronto Hydro said yesterday.

"From a reliability perspective, the overhead system is very reliable," said the company's vice-president of distribution grid management, Ben Lapianta. "The underground system is also reliable, but during storms, they are subjected to heavy rain waters ... and problems can arise."

Yesterday, hundreds of residents were left without power for most of the day after a fire in a vault near Bathurst Street and St. Clair Avenue West. The outage followed Sunday's explosion in a vault outside a Secord Avenue building.

In the 50-year history of the vaults in North America, they've proven to be one of the most reliable ways of keeping a city energized, said Peter Marcucci, vice-president of regulatory affairs for the Electrical Safety Authority. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

FOUND Peel homicide detectives are investigating a suspicious death after a woman's body was found in a secluded area of a Mississauga park. Investigators scouring the area for Karina Neff, a missing 31-year-old intellectually disabled woman, came across the body in the woods at Windy Hollow Park in the Erin Mills Parkway and South Millway area around 12:30 p.m., said police.

PARK DISCOVERY Suspicious meat was found in a Mississauga park yesterday for the second time in less than a week. Police scoured the area after finding unidentified meat at Tobias Mason Park but did not find any more and reopened the park. A piece of meat was also found Thursday in Erin Woods Park. It did not seem tainted, but was sent to the Centre of Forensic Sciences for analysis, police said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bike IDs **Rolling along**

AARON LYNETT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Saharla Ali, a member of the Youth in Policing Initiative, notes the serial number, make and model of one of the more than 1,000 stolen bicycles being sorted yesterday in the Toronto police garage on Hanna Avenue. About 35 members of the Youth in Policing Initiative were on hand in the garage to help with the cataloguing and sorting of the recovered stolen bikes.

Court hears woman had 'excessive' liposuction

A Toronto mother who died after liposuction surgery last year allegedly had 23 incisions made in six different body parts in one session — an "excessive" amount that could have contributed to her death, according to allegations in court documents.

"There were puncture wounds where no physician would put one," Dr. Sean Rice, a plastic surgeon who tried to revive Krista Stryland as she lay dying at North York General Hospital on Sept. 20, 2007, told an investigator from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

"The amount of puncture wounds was well beyond the amount that should have been done," Rice told the investigator in the case against Dr. Behnaz Yazdanfar.

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Surgery

Details of the surgery performed by Dr. Behnaz Yazdanfar at the private Toronto Cosmetic Clinic were released for the first time yesterday when the college agreed to rescind its pursuit of a publication ban.

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Grand & Toy helps Salvation Army
Grand & Toy has offered the use of warehouse space to the Salvation Army after a fire destroyed the charity's Railside distribution centre, 100,000 toys and 268 skids of food in May. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Miller behind board

Zoo fundraising concerns valid: Mayor

Mayor David Miller is backing the Toronto Zoo board in its dispute with its fundraising arm.

Miller says he shares the board's concern that the zoo's volunteer-run fundraising foundation may not be up to the task of raising $250 million for zoo revitalization.

"They were concerned whether the foundation was capable of undertaking that campaign," Miller said yesterday. "That's the board's decision, and I think those concerns are certainly valid ones."

Last week, the board voted to give CEO Calvin White authority to end its fundraising agreement with the foundation.

Foundation chair David Strickland noted that a consultant's report concluded the relationship between the zoo and its foundation was an issue and both parties need each other to be successful.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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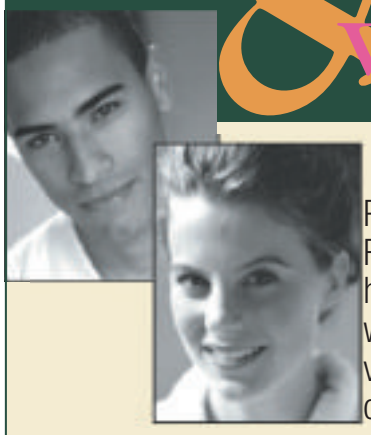
Livent

Gottlieb 'smirked' about lie: Witness

TRIAL Livent president Myron Gottlieb "smirked and looked away" when his corporate controller asked if he wanted her to lie to a new management team about financial irregularities, she told his fraud trial. Diane Winkfein testified yesterday that she had already told her immediate boss, senior finance vice-president Gordon Eckstein, that she would no longer make fraudulent adjustments to Livent's books unless the new managers were aware of it. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

men & women

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Cod fishing back, despite concerns

Throngs of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians will once again venture out to sea today to reel in cod for the kitchen table, despite concerns that stock levels are too fragile to sustain the largely self-regulated, recreational fishery. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

'Monster' to stay in Quebec

Serial killer Allan Legere — the man widely known in the Maritimes as the Monster of the Miramichi — will remain in the Quebec-based, special-handling unit that houses Canada's most dangerous offenders, despite published reports to the contrary.

Nova Scotia hit by Cristobal

Tropical storm Cristobal drenched Nova Scotia yesterday, skirting the coast of the province and dumping an entire month's worth of rain on some areas in less than 24 hours.

The heavy rainfall flooded basements in the Cape Sable region at the southern tip of the province, and at least one road was washed out in Sambro, about 20 kilometres southwest of Halifax.

However, Cristobal's most powerful winds — clocked at 90 kilometres per hour at the northeastern edge of the storm — remained well offshore.

The Canadian Hurricane Centre in Dartmouth, N.S., said Cristobal will likely continue moving northeast off Nova Scotia until late last night, when it's expected to shift to the southeast, dodging Newfoundland.

"It's still a good ways offshore, about 400 kilometres," meteorologist Bob Robichaud said yesterday afternoon.

Robichaud said Baccaro Point in southwestern Nova Scotia received the most rain in the province, with 165 millimetres falling between Monday evening and yesterday afternoon.

The monthly average for July is about 100 millimetres.

The downpours prompted the cancellation of boat tours departing from Halifax, forcing tourists to rework their vacation plans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

downpour

- Downtown Halifax received 45 millimetres, but nearby Sambro saw intense showers soak the coastal community with 125 millimetres.

B.C. Crane collapse causes traffic delays

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Construction workers survey the scene after a crane collapsed over Highway 1 in Surrey, B.C., yesterday. No injuries were reported but the incident caused long traffic delays for commuters.

Body of Canadian soldier returned home

AFGHANISTAN The body of the latest Canadian soldier to die in Afghanistan is back on Canadian soil.

Cpl. James Arnal, 25, was killed July 18 by a roadside bomb while he was on foot patrol.

Friends, family, and dignitaries gathered at CFB Trenton to meet the Canadian Forces plane carrying Arnal's body.

Arnal was on his second tour of Afghanistan and had already signed up for a third. Arnal, the 88th Canadian soldier to die on the Afghan mission, told his friends and family that he was born to be a soldier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOM HANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Wendy Hayward Miskiewwicz, mother of Cpl. James Arnal, breaks down after leaving a rose on the casket of her son during his repatriation ceremony at CFB Trenton yesterday.

McGuinty vows to stand up for Ontario

FUNDING Ontario needs to be more like other provinces that "defend their interests so quickly it would make your head spin" to win its long-standing $20 billion funding feud with the federal government, Premier Dalton McGuinty says.

But there will be no stunts like lowering the Canadian flag — as Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Danny Williams did to back demands for a better deal with Ottawa, McGuinty said.

Dusting off his crusade to get Ottawa to take less than the current $20 billion a year from Ontario's struggling economy to help other provinces, the premier urged Ontario residents to get more vocal in backing him in the battle with Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

"We have been somewhat reluctant to stand up for ourselves," McGuinty said after a luncheon speech, in what amounted to a plea for help from citizens.

"It's one thing for me to take it to Parliament Hill and make the case as one Ontarian. It's another thing for 13 million Ontarians to make the case together."

McGuinty said it's in their best interests to do so given high oil prices and rising unemployment in a manufacturing sector hard-hit by rising costs of energy, the high dollar and a U.S. economic slowdown.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Body of Toronto man found

INVESTIGATION Ontario Provincial Police say a Toronto man is one of two dead bodies found in Ramara Township in Simcoe County Monday.

Around 8:30 p.m., OPP went to a McMillan Side Road residence. They found the body of 70-year-old Larry Duesbury on the shoreline of the Black River, near the property.

A post-mortem will be conducted today to determine the cause of death.

Although no foul play is suspected, Const. Sally Stewart says there are suspicions the death may have been the result of a medical condition, a drowning or both. While both bodies were found within "several kilometres" of each other, Stewart says the deaths are not related.

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Alberta weather radar up for fix
Environment Canada says it is fixing a signal problem from one of its vital weather radar sites near Edmonton. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-fiancée testifies

Khawaja was angry but no terrorist, court told

The former fiancée of accused terrorist Momin Khawaja says he may have longed to fight in Afghanistan and that he praised the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attack on the U.S., but she never considered him an extremist or a terrorist.

"Just because he supports these things in theory is not actually proof of his involvement as such," Zeba Khan told Ontario Superior Court yesterday in a video link-up from Dubai.

Khan told RCMP investigators during a lengthy interview at the Canadian consulate in Dubai on Sept. 19, 2005, that her sister once described Khawaja as a "blowhard" who liked to hear "the sound of his own voice."

Khan told Khawaja's landmark terror trial she saw him as just another angry young Muslim man she hoped to change once they got married, a marriage that didn't happen because Khawaja decided he was a jihadist first and foremost.

"I thought I would marry him and change him," said Khan, 28.

Khawaja, 29, born and raised in Orleans near Ottawa, faces seven terrorism charges, including funding a terrorist group and building an electronic device the Crown alleges was to be used to detonate a 600-kilogram fertilizer bomb.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SEAN KILPATRICK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mohammed Momin Khawaja's parents, father Mahboob and mother Azra, walk away from the Ottawa courthouse yesterday during a recess in their son's trial.

"I thought I would marry him and change him."
Khawaja's former fiancée Zeba Khan

Federal

Speculation over byelection dates

POLITICS Three federal byelections in early September promise to stir up Canada's stagnant political waters, serving as a litmus test for a possible general election this fall. Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to call the byelections this week, which includes the riding of Guelph. Opposition parties expect the vote in the three ridings will be held Sept. 8 but Conservative insiders suggest Harper may opt for Sept. 2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

OPP boss fires back over blockade handling

CONTROVERSY The war of words between OPP Commissioner Julian Fantino and Mohawk activist Shawn Brant is escalating as controversy swirls over last summer's blockade of Highway 401.

Fantino yesterday rejected criticism of his handling of Brant's June 29, 2007, blockade of Canada's busiest highway and a main rail line near Kingston.

"I find the whole thing ludicrous," Fantino told the Toronto Star. "It's all utter shameful madness that under the circumstances ... I and the OPP would be portrayed as the villains and Brant the victim. But then again, some people have no shame," he wrote.

Fantino said he is proud the OPP were able to achieve a peaceful outcome to the blockade.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Julian Fantino

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Viagra may help women on antidepressants, study finds

Viagra's effect in women has been disappointing, but a new small study finds those on antidepressants may benefit from taking the little blue pills. The research involving 98 premenopausal women found Viagra helped with orgasm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Making bread, not war

Old Afghan farmers swear they've never seen such a windfall. They are reporting record profits from a crop that doesn't kill anyone, doesn't fund insurgents and doesn't place them at risk of having their farm destroyed by the state. In short, this crop is everything the opium poppy is not. This miracle crop? Wheat, which is benefitting from a global spike in grain prices. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

India-U.S. nuke deal step closer

ENERGY India's government survived a hotly contested confidence vote yesterday, clearing the way for a landmark nuclear energy deal with the United States.

The vote capped a week of intense politicking that saw the government rename an airport for a legislator's father, promise a high-level job to another, and allegedly hand out millions of dollars.

Under the agreement, India would open its civilian reactors to inspections in exchange for nuclear fuel and technology, which it has been denied by its refusal to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

WILDLIFE Only seven pandas remain at China's Wolong Nature Reserve after 13 were transferred from the earthquake-damaged facility.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AFGHANISTAN A Taliban leader surrendered and another insurgent commander was killed by a British air strike yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Very convincing'

How Radovan Karadzic evaded capture for so long

Radovan Karadzic grew a long beard to conceal his identity and even managed to openly practise alternative medicine while in hiding, officials said yesterday in revealing details of the fugitive's capture after more than a decade on the run.

Karadzic, the wartime leader of Bosnian Serbs, was arrested Monday in a Belgrade suburb. A judge has ordered his transfer to the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague to face genocide charges, prosecutor Vladimir Vukcevic said.

Karadzic, a psychiatrist accused of masterminding the deadly wartime siege of Sarajevo and the executions of up to 8,000 Muslims in Srebrenica during Bosnia's 1992-95 war, had topped the tribunal's most-wanted list for years.

Government official Rasim Ljajic said Karadzic, once known for his distinctively coifed hairdo, was unrecognizable.

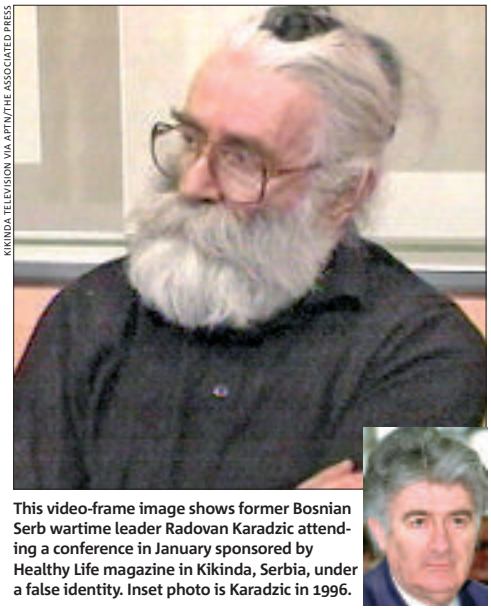
"His false identity was very convincing," Vukcevic said. "Even his landlords were unaware of his identity."

Karadzic used a false name, Dragan Dabic, Ljajic said. The editor-in-chief of Belgrade's Healthy Life magazine, Goran Kojic, said he was shocked when he saw Karadzic on TV, recognizing him as a regular contributor.

"It never even occurred to me that this man with a long white beard and hair was Karadzic," Kojic said.

Karadzic's whereabouts had been a mystery since he went on the run in 1998.

KIKINDA TELEVISION VIA AP TV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



This video-frame image shows former Bosnian Serb wartime leader Radovan Karadzic attending a conference in January sponsored by Healthy Life magazine in Kikinda, Serbia, under a false identity. Inset photo is Karadzic in 1996.

Dolly gets stronger, now a hurricane

WEATHER Forecasters say Dolly has become a hurricane and is heading toward southern Texas and northeastern Mexico.

Dolly was upgraded from a tropical storm to a Category 1 hurricane yesterday afternoon and some strengthening is forecast before landfall today.

At 5 p.m. yesterday, the centre of the storm was located about 265 kilometres east-southeast of Brownsville, Texas.

Dolly is moving toward the northwest near 16 kilometres per hour, and maximum sustained winds have increased to near 120 kilometres per hour.

A hurricane warning is in effect for the coast of Texas from Brownsville to Corpus Christi and in Mexico from Rio San Fernando northward.

In McAllen, Texas, coastal officials worried that Dolly may bring so much rain that flooding could break through the levees holding back the Rio Grande.

Forecasters said Dolly was expected to dump about 400 to 500 millimetres of rain and bring coastal storm surge flooding of one to two metres above normal high tide levels.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hurricane Dolly

- Upgraded from tropical storm to Category 1 hurricane
- Expected to dump up to 500 millilitres of rain

Obama commits to Mideast peace

U.S. presidential contender Barack Obama vowed yesterday to work for a breakthrough in Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations "starting from the minute I'm sworn into office."

He told a news conference in Amman, Jordan, that any U.S. involvement in peace talks must recognize not only Israel's security concerns but also the economic hardships facing Palestinians.

Obama said he would continue to regard Israel as a valued ally. "That policy is not going to change," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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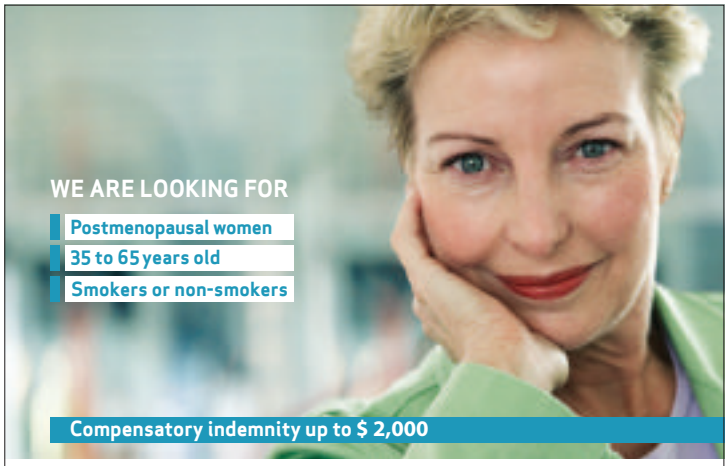
*MSRP for 2009 Vibe base (excluding freight). Freight ($1160), licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees, duties and taxes not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices.†Whichever comes first. See dealer for limited warranty details. Applies to 2009 models. Excludes Medium-Duty Trucks. ‡Fuel consumption determined using Transport Canada approved methodology for 2009 Vibe with 1.8L and automatic transmission.

Six miners dead in China

Chinese media reported yesterday that 20 miners have escaped or been rescued from a flooded coal mine in southern China but six have died and 30 remain trapped. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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25511_0714

Driver linked to 9/11

Former Bin Laden employee's trial continues

A former driver for Osama bin Laden knew the target of the fourth hijacked plane on Sept. 11, a prosecutor said yesterday as he sought to undercut defence arguments that the Guantanamo prisoner was a low-level employee of the terrorist leader.

Salim Hamdan, the first prisoner to face a U.S. war-crimes trial since the Second World War, heard Bin Laden say the plane was heading for "the dome," an apparent reference to the U.S. Capitol, said navy Lt.-Cmdr. Timothy Stone.

Salim Hamdan

The plane crashed in a Pennsylvania field as passengers overcame the hijackers.

"Virtually no one knew the intended target, but the accused knew," Stone told the jury of six U.S. military officers in his opening statement.

Hamdan is charged with conspiracy and aiding terrorism. The defence says the prisoner, a Yemeni with a fourth-grade education, was merely a driver for Bin Laden and had no significant role in al Qaeda's terrorist attacks.

"The evidence is that he worked for wages, he didn't wage attacks on America," Harry Schneider, one of Hamdan's defence lawyers, told the jury. "He had a job because he had to earn a living, not because he had a jihad against America."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Battery power touted

The lithium-ion battery, already a fixture in personal electronic devices, soon will become the answer to high oil prices and environmental concerns as it bulks up to power rechargeable electric vehicles, government, university and industry panelists predicted Monday.

But although the technology shows great promise, battery makers worldwide still are grappling with high costs, the impact of charging and depletion on battery life, and other issues, according to panellists at the Plug-In 2008 conference in San Jose, Calif.

Panellists also said the larger battery packs now being tested in plug-ins will drop in price as more are produced.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

COURT Italy's top criminal court has upheld the sexual assault conviction of a man who argued that the victim's jeans prevented the attack.

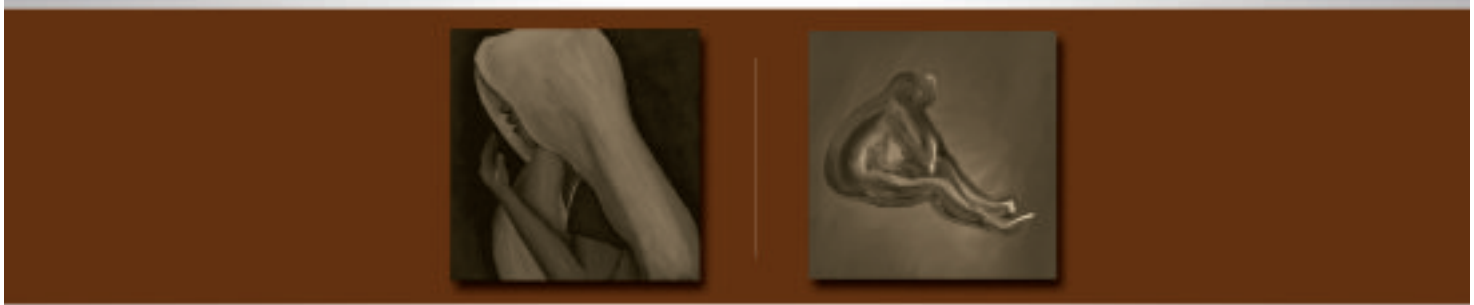
SANCTIONS European Union foreign ministers agreed yesterday to toughen sanctions against Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe to pressure him to share power with the opposition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY IS A GOOD DAY TO SURPRISE A FRIEND...
Take Five daily, to find out what your horoscope says.
metronews.ca
metro Do it daily.

Our Thanks to You,
Our Tears for Them.

This weekend, the Tamil Canadian community commemorates the 25th anniversary of the Anti-Tamil violence that took place in Sri Lanka during July 1983. At a time when Tamils from Sri Lanka were seeking refuge from persecution, Canada opened its doors to provide a safe haven.



Help us remember. Join us at these signature events on Saturday, July 26th, 2008.

"Remembering Silenced Voices" Exhibit
arta gallery
55 mill st., suite 102, bldg 9
distillery historic district, toronto
tel. (416) 240-0078
10 am - 9 pm, artists' reception at 2:30 pm

"What If the Rain Fails" Play
young centre for the performing arts
55 mill st., bldg 49
distillery historic district, toronto
tel. (416) 995-2984
performances at 1 pm, 4 pm, 6 pm

www.blackjuly83.com

Ford puts Oakville third shift plan on hold
Ford has delayed the addition of a third shift and hundreds of jobs at its Oakville assembly plant indefinitely because of an abrupt downturn in sales of the Edge and Lincoln MKX crossover utility vehicles in the U.S. and Canadian markets. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Business

DOLLAR		OIL	
0.69¢	C$ $99.17 US US$ $1.0084	$127.95 US	$3.09

Feds mull what to do with windfall

AUCTION The just completed $4.25-billion auction of wireless spectrum has changed the industry "forever" in Canada by ushering in a new era of increased competition that will mean lower prices for consumers, says Industry Minister Jim Prentice.

But the government has yet to decide how to spend its unexpected bounty, Prentice said yesterday.

He conceded that the money paid by 15 high bidders far outstripped the government's top expectations of about $1.5 billion.

Prentice said it may take about a year for Canadians to begin benefiting from the transformation that will occur once new entrants begin setting up operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Airlines heading toward mergers

Higher fuel prices and an agreement on loosening U.S. foreign ownership regulations could lead to a consolidation of the global airline industry into just a few companies, the chief executive of Qantas Airways said yesterday.

"Right now the global aviation industry faces ... a permanent transformation," Geoff Dixon told business leaders in Sydney.

The United States and the European Union began talks in May on an aviation agreement that could end American rules barring foreign control of U.S. airlines and capping foreign ownership of voting stock at 25 per cent.

Dixon, who has repeatedly warned that the rising cost of fuel is a very serious problem for airlines worldwide and who announced last week that Qantas will shed 1,500 jobs next year, said such deregulation of the U.S. market would be a "groundbreaking development." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Right now the global aviation industry faces ... a permanent transformation."
Geoff Dixon

In brief

RETAIL SALES Retail sales rose 0.4 per cent in May primarily due to higher gasoline sales, but rose by only 0.1 per cent if price changes are removed.

EI RECIPIENTS Statistics Canada says 457,020 Canadians received Employment Insurance benefits in May, down 5,330 or 1.2 per cent from April.

CHEAPER Oil prices tumbled more than $3 US a barrel yesterday as tropical storm Dolly seemed unlikely to threaten supply. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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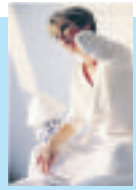
- Made it hard to fall asleep and stay asleep?
- Made areas around your neck & shoulders tender to the touch?
- Caused you to miss activities with family/friends because you were too tired or in pain?



This clinical research study is evaluating an investigational medication to see if it helps relieve fibromyalgia pain and fatigue and improves quality of life.
To qualify you must be at least 18 yrs. of age & have been experiencing widespread pain for three months or more (other criteria apply).
Qualified participants receive all study-related care and study drug at no cost and you will be compensated for travel expenses.
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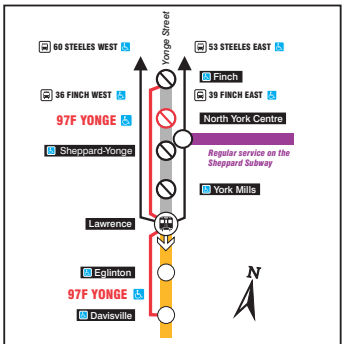
Subway and RT Construction

Yonge Subway
No trains North of Lawrence Station after 12:30 am, Sunday to Friday until early 2009 during tunnel repairs


60 STEELES WEST
53 STEELES EAST
Yonge Street
Finch
36 FINCH WEST
39 FINCH EAST
97F YONGE
North York Centre
Sheppard-Yonge
Regular service on the Sheppard Subway
York Mills
Lawrence
Eglinton
97F YONGE
Davisville
N
Regular late evening subway service
Early subway closure (12:30 am, Sunday to Friday)
Regular service on the Sheppard subway
Station open for regular bus service only
North York Station closes after last train (approx. 12:30 am)
97F YONGE bus serves all stops on Yonge Street
Routes 36, 39, 53, 60 extended to Lawrence Station and serve all stops on Yonge Street

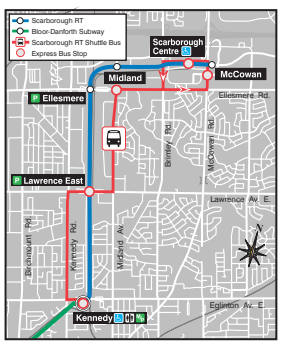
- No trains north of Lawrence Station after 12:30 am, Sunday to Friday.
- Routes 36, 39, 53 and 60 extended south on Yonge Street to Lawrence Station.
- Finch, Sheppard-Yonge, York Mills stations
  - No Subway service
  - Stations remain open for regular bus service
- North York Centre station closes approximately 12:30 am
- 97F YONGE bus will provide an accessible connection between Davisville, Lawrence and Finch stations.

Regular subway service on Saturdays

Scarborough RT
Late evening closure
For scheduled maintenance until February 14, 2009

Last train will be approximately 12:00 midnight, every day.

A frequent accessible express bus service will run between Kennedy & McCowan stations
Stopping at Lawrence East RT Station, Midland & Ellesmere and Scarborough Centre



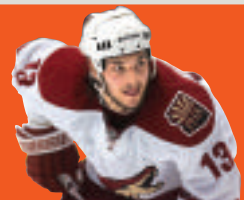
Last trip times	Every Day
Last train from McCowan Station	11:46 p.m.
Last train from Kennedy Station	11:58 p.m.

First and last trip times	Every Day
First bus from Scarborough Centre Station	11:49 p.m.
Last bus from Scarborough Centre Station	1:25 a.m.
First bus from Kennedy Station	12:04 a.m.
Last bus from Kennedy Station	1:40 a.m.

www.ttc.ca 416-393-INFO

Cycling
French rider Cyril Dessel won the 16th stage of the Tour de France yesterday, but Frank Schleck of Luxembourg held on to the yellow jersey as the race's overall leader. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports



Carcillo re-signs

Daniel Carcillo, left, who led the NHL in penalty minutes as a rookie last season, was re-signed to a two-year contract yesterday by the Phoenix Coyotes. Carcillo, a 23-year-old left winger, had 13 goals, 11 assists and 324 penalty minutes in 57 games.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPORTS EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

SCOREBOARD

MLB

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
TORONTO 10 Baltimore 8
N.Y. Yankees 8 Minnesota 2
Oakland 8 Tampa Bay 1
Detroit at Kansas City
Texas at Chicago White Sox
Cleveland at L.A. Angels
Boston at Seattle
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Florida 4 Atlanta 0
Philadelphia 8 N.Y. Mets 6
San Diego at Cincinnati
Pittsburgh at Houston
Milwaukee at St. Louis
L.A. Dodgers at Colorado
Chicago Cubs at Arizona
Washington at S. Francisco

TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Oakland at Tampa Bay, 12:40
Minnesota at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05
Texas at Chicago White Sox, 2:05
Detroit at Kansas City, 2:10
Cleveland at L.A. Angels, 3:35
Boston at Seattle, 4:40
TORONTO at Baltimore, 7:05
NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Diego at Cincinnati, 12:35
Pittsburgh at Houston, 2:05
L.A. Dodgers at Colorado, 3:05
Atlanta at Florida, 7:10
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10
Milwaukee at St. Louis, 8:15
Chicago Cubs at Arizona, 9:40
Washington at S. Francisco, 10:15

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	2	2	0	4
TORONTO	2	2	0	4
Hamilton	1	3	0	2
Winnipeg	0	4	0	0

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	GB
Saskatchewan	4	0	0	8
Calgary	3	1	0	6
Edmonton	2	2	0	4
B.C.	2	2	0	4

WEEK 5
TOMORROW'S GAME
Calgary at Winnipeg, 8
FRIDAY'S GAMES
Edmonton at Hamilton, 7
Montreal at B.C., 10
SUNDAY'S GAME
TORONTO at Saskatchewan, 7

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:
LAST NIGHT'S RESULT
Montreal 1 TORONTO 1
TOMORROW'S GAME
MLS All-Star Game (at BMO Field)
MLS All-Stars vs. West Ham, 7

Heartbreaking tie

Draw costs TFC Champions League spot

IMPACT 1 TFC 1

The Montreal Impact scored a blow for all underdogs as it claimed the inaugural Nutrilite Canadian Championship with a 1-1 tie against Toronto FC in the final game of the round-robin tournament for Canada's three professional soccer teams last night at BMO Field.

The Impact, who are in second-last place in the second-tier United Soccer Leagues, needed just a tie against Canada's lone team in top-level Major League Soccer to win the title and become the country's representative in the CONCACAF Champions League.

Montreal fought back from a 1-0 deficit on a goal off a corner by Roberto Brown and then held on for dear life against a Toronto team expected to win the event against the Impact and the USL's Vancouver Impact because of its place in MLS.

Toronto FC came extremely close to taking the lead and winning the title in dramatic fashion in the 89th minute, but Amado Guevara's free kick from 35 yards out was headed off the post before the ball was corralled by goalie Matt Jordan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

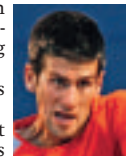
MARK WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Montreal Impact celebrate after tying the Toronto FC 1-1 last night to win the Nutrilite Canadian Championship and qualify as Canada's representative in the CONCACAF Champions League.

Djokovic blows past Dancevic

TENNIS There will be no thrilling quarter-final run for Canadian Frank Dancevic at the Rogers Cup.

Dancevic, 23, of Niagara Falls, Ont., reached the quarter-final round of last year's tournament in Montreal before being eliminated by Spain's Rafael Nadal. Last night, it was third-seeded Serb Novak Djokovic, the defending champion, who sent Dancevic packing with a 6-4, 6-4 second-round victory at Rexall Centre.



Djokovic

Still, it was a decent showing for Dancevic, ranked No. 82 in the world, against a player in Djokovic who is ranked 79 spots higher. On Monday, Dancevic downed Croatian Mario Ancic, ranked 24th in the world. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lind, McDonald rally Jays to win

BLUE JAYS 10 ORIOLES 8

MLB Adam Lind had a career-high four hits, including a three-run homer, and light-hitting John McDonald had four RBIs to rally the Blue Jays past the Baltimore Orioles 10-8 last night.

Alex Rios also homered for the Blue Jays, who trailed 4-0 after three innings and 7-6 after five.

Toronto's comeback took some of the sting away from a poor outing by starter Shaun Marcum, making his first start in over a month after being sidelined with elbow soreness. Marcum gave up seven runs and eight hits, including three home runs, in 4 2/3 innings. THE CANADIAN PRESS

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	5 4 0
Ontario Pick 4	5 5 3 9
Encore	5953070
Daily Keno	11, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 39, 40, 43, 44, 47, 48, 49, 60, 61, 62, 65, 69.

Results not official

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NFL

San Diego Chargers defensive end Luis Castillo has agreed to a five-year contract extension through 2014 valued at more than $43 million US. Castillo has 13 sacks in 36 career games, including 33 starts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Favre to Argos? Don't bet on it!

YorkReport

Brett Favre, the message on my voice mail insisted, is mulling over an offer from the Toronto Argonauts that would make him not only the quarterback of the CFL team but also its part-owner.

"Is your source good?" Argos general manager Adam Rita asked. "Who is it?"

"Don't know," I replied. "He didn't identify himself. He said he'd lose his job if he were exposed. He said you and (Argos co-owner) David Cynamon have been talking to Favre's agent for more than a week."

"Great story, eh?" Rita responded. "Hell of a story … But not true."

The Argos have had no contact with Favre or his agent, Rita said. And Favre's agent, Bus Cook, concurred when I spoke with him via telephone yesterday.

So someone's a liar — probably the dude who left the anonymous message — but genuine blockbuster stories have been leaked to me this way in the past and it would've been irresponsible for me not to at least check. And if Favre happens to join the Argos, I'll still brag that I let you know about it first.

In the meantime, while Favre presumably continues to try to resume his illustrious career with the Green Bay Packers or some other NFL club and while I continue to do my due diligence on behalf of Metro readers throughout Canada, the Argos will just have to continue with Kerry Joseph as their QB.

"There isn't much difference in this league between a 4-0 team and an 0-4 team."
Argonauts GM Adam Rita

Until last Sunday, that was problematic. Despite being chosen the CFL's outstanding player as the Saskatchewan Roughriders' QB last season, and despite being traded to the Argos in a hyped deal that hiked his salary and heightened Toronto's expectations, Joseph struggled and the Argos won only one of three games.

Last Sunday, however, Joseph sparkled in a dramatic victory over the Edmonton Eskimos and turned in a gem unlike any by an Argo QB since Doug Flutie last decade. Because of Joseph's last-minute heroics, the Argos are tied atop the CFL East at 2-2.

This Sunday, Joseph will visit the franchise that deemed him unworthy of the raise he sought.

"I'm sure Kerry's psyched up," Rita acknowledged, "but more about winning than playing his former team."

The Riders are 4-0, but Rita said: "There isn't much difference in this league between a 4-0 team and an 0-4 team. Saskatchewan has been able to win at the ends of games, but we've proven we can, too. And we think we have the right quarterback."

And his name isn't Brett Favre. Not yet, anyway.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Trade bait?

• Metro columnist Marty York hears these MLB players are likely to be dealt by the July 31 trade deadline and ranks the likelihood from 1 to 5, with 5 being the strongest:

Mark Texeira (4), Raul Ibanez (4), Xavier Nady (3.5), Jason Bay (2.5), Matt Holliday (4), Brian Fuentes (4.5), A.J. Burnett (2), Aubrey Huff (3), George Sherrill (3), Eddy Guardado (3), Omar Vizquel (3.5), Adrian Beltre (3).

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Athletics

Olympic triple jump champion Christian Olsson of Sweden pulled out of the Summer Games in Beijing because of a hamstring injury he sustained yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

U.S. to import 'secret' masks

Along with its array of world champions and specially imported food, the U.S. Olympic team will be bringing a "top secret" weapon to China: Custom-designed masks.

The more than 600 U.S. Olympians will be offered the masks once they arrive in Beijing, where air quality continues to be a concern. The program to develop the masks has been underway for two years. The project's author, physiologist Randy Wilber, told the Wall Street Journal that details were "top secret."

The spectre of hundreds of athletes parading into the opening ceremony arrayed as if ready for chemical warfare is a nightmare for Chinese officials. But America's cloak-and-dagger tone only amuses Canada's top Olympic doctor Robert McCormack.

"The way they're couching makes it sound as if they have something magical," McCormack, the team's chief medical officer, said. "I'm not sure there is any magic in that." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tomorrow's lineup

TEAM CANADA For more on today's announcement on who will be carrying our flag and representing our country at the Games, read tomorrow's Metro.

15 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

Full team ahead

First time Canada will send six to compete in triathlon

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Canada

For the first time since the triathlon's debut at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Canada will be sending a full team of six — three men, three women — to compete on the world stage in the endurance sport of running, cycling and swimming.

Colin Jenkins found out he made the men's team after the 2008 world championships in Vancouver, where he placed 55th and was named to the team by Triathlon Canada's high-performance committee. This will be the Hamilton, Ont., native's Olympic debut.

"They called us up into the hotel room one by one and told us whether we made it or not, and luckily they said that I did make it," he said. "My whole family was there so I went back down to my room and we celebrated. I was really happy. It's pretty amazing to have something that you've worked hard for for so long and to finally achieve it."

For Montreal's Kathy Tremblay, who was named to the women's team that same day, competing in the Olympics was never a matter of if, but when.

"I never had any plan B," said the 26-year-old. "I've only had plan A, which was going to the Olympics. I always knew I was going to Beijing, so now it's like, thank God, I can say I'm going there, not soon or 'I just need to wait.'"

Tremblay is the top-ranked Canadian in the World Cup rankings at No. 14.

The other triathletes Canada will be sending are Simon Whitfield of Victoria, Paul Tichelaar of Edmonton, Lauren Groves of Vancouver, and Carolyn Murray of St. Albert, Alta.

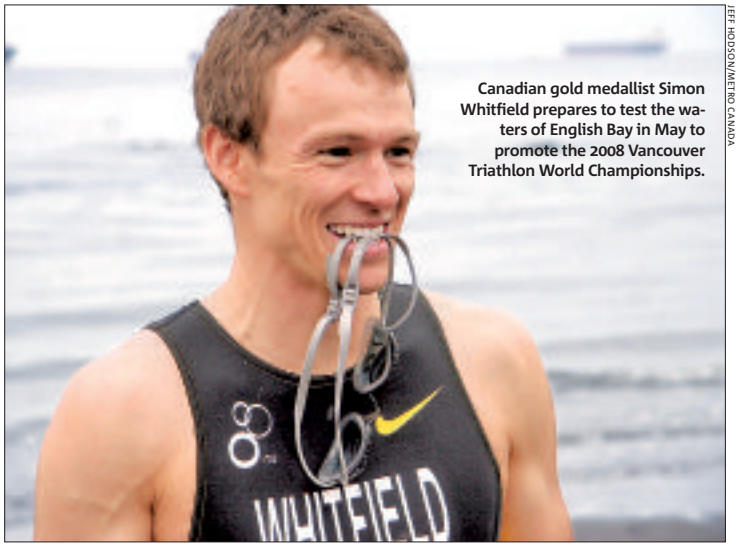
In early June, it was announced the men would implement a team strategy where Jenkins and Tichelaar would work to get Whitfield — the 2000 Summer Games gold medallist and a real contender again this time around — back on the podium.

Coach Joel Filliol told media in a conference call in June that it was in the team's best interest to have each athlete play to their strengths. Jenkins, for example, has a background in swimming and is exceptionally strong in the discipline.

Filliol added there would be no such strategy for the women's team.

The team is currently training six or seven days a week. It will head to Beijing on Aug. 12, leaving six days for its members to adjust to the climate and time zone change before the triathlon event begins on Aug. 18.

"I don't want to be the tourist going to Beijing, going to the McDonald's," said Tremblay with a laugh. "I really want to perform there and give my all, then come back home and say, 'I enjoyed that,' and plan another in four years in London."



JEFF HODSON/METRO CANADA

Canadian gold medallist Simon Whitfield prepares to test the waters of English Bay in May to promote the 2008 Vancouver Triathlon World Championships.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO CANADA FILE

Colin Jenkins runs during the final laps of the 2008 BG Triathlon World Cup in Vancouver's Stanley Park.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO CANADA FILE

Kathy Tremblay smiles at the 2008 BG Triathlon World Cup finish line after completing the gruelling race.

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Automotive

A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: carguide magazine.com

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

The new Clubman "wagon" is Mini's response to those who viewed it as a fun-to-drive little car but felt it came up a bit short on interior space.

Maximum Mini Cooper

Clubman's expansive interior doesn't cramp car's funky style

B. MCLAUCHLAN
for Metro Canada

There's no question the Mini has a lot of appeal going for it. Lots of people find it hard to resist the Mini's combination of compact size, funky styling and frugal fuel consumption.

But if the only thing keeping you out of a Mini until now was its lightness on practicality, then deny yourself no more.

The new Clubman "wagon" is Mini's response to those who viewed it as a fun-to-drive little car but felt it came up a bit short on interior space. Compared with the original Mini hatchback, the Clubman sits on a three-inch longer wheelbase and adds almost 10 inches of overall body length. These stretches not only make the two-passenger rear seat more habitable but also put 63 per cent more cargo room behind the back seats. And a rear-hinged "suicide" type rear half-door on the passenger side and a pair of swing-out rear doors make it very easy to get into the rear compartment or stash some stuff in the back.

Like the regular Mini hatchback, the Clubman comes in Cooper and Cooper S flavours. Like its hatchback counterpart, the entry-level Cooper, which starts at $26,400, gets its power from a 118-horsepower, 1.6-litre four-cylinder engine. The more potent Cooper S, with a $31,500 starting price, draws its extra punch from a 172-hp turbocharged version of the same 1.6-litre four. Standard manual and optional automatic transmissions are both six-speed units.

2008 Mini Clubman Cooper

Type: Subcompact 4-pass. wagon FWD
Price: $26,400
Engine: 1.6L L4 DOHC
HP: 118 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque: 114 @ 4,250 rpm

Highlights

- BMW-bred engineering and safety
- Extra rear-seat legroom
- Cargo space

In the case of the Clubman, more weight (roughly 80 kg) and that longer wheelbase may slightly dampen the Mini's legendary agility, but there's still plenty to spare for making it a blast to drive.

Along with all the Mini's major mechanical bits, the Clubman inherits the interior that endeared the hatchback to so many of its owners. The dash and centre console area is peppered with clear, round dial shapes, dominated by a big central speedometer complete with an array of secondary control switches.

With seats just as comfortable and supportive as those in the regular Mini, the interior is decently habitable, but the real bonus can be found in the Clubman's 930-litre cargo capacity — enough space to swallow a mountain bike, camping gear or what have you.

Bumper plan road to imports?

AMENDMENT Canadian motorists pay attention: Our government may finally be opening the door to a whole new world of import automobiles.

The federal government has proposed an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Safety Regulations (MVSR) to harmonize Canadian bumper standards for passenger cars with standards from the U.S. and Europe.

Could this mean Citroëns, Vauxhalls and Peugeots prowling our streets? It's too early to tell, but the amendment would mean one global bumper design for North American and European market vehicles.

Proposed change to Canadian bumper standards could open doors to imports such as this Fiat 500.

"This proposed amendment would offer more choice to Canadians who wish to import vehicles," said Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Transport, Infrastructure and Communities.

"At the same time, it would help to maintain the safety of Canadian roads."

The proposed change is part of the Canada-U.S. Security and Prosperity Partnership to reduce regulatory differences and facilitate international trade while maintaining high levels of safety.

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Sweet summer, sweeter Solstice

Base model of Pontiac convertible a bargain that looks like a million bucks

B. MCLAUCHLAN
for Metro Canada

It's not often that an auto show concept car makes the trip from design fantasy to production reality. Just as rare is when the car arrives in dealer showrooms with the concept's original shape virtually intact.

That was the case when the Pontiac Solstice appeared in 2006 and it looks no less gorgeous today.

Even in base-model form, the Solstice remains a bargain for a car that looks like a million bucks. So, if all you want to do is bask in other people's admiration, get one with an automatic transmission, put the convertible top down and go cruising. The entry fee for that kind of ride is $27,670.

But if you want a real sports car driving experience, the step-up Solstice GXP at $35,800 is worth every dollar.

We're talking the difference between 173 horsepower from the base Solstice's 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine and 260 hp from the GXP's engine room. We're also talking the difference between an engine that feels laboured and one that's smooth and eager. The source of this transformation is a direct-injection 2.0-litre turbocharged derivative of the same "four" found in the base Solstice.

The Pontiac Solstice is one of those rare cars that have made the trip from concept vehicle to production reality.

The 2008 Solstice kicks up the excitement factor both inside and outside with some new standard features.

A five-speed manual transmission is standard in both models with a five-speed automatic optional.

The 2008 Solstice kicks up the excitement factor with some new standard features that were once options.

New regular equipment for the base model and GXP includes a premium acoustic headliner, OnStar and GM's Driver Information Centre — which offers important information such as current fuel economy, fuel range, oil life and warning indicators. Also standard for 2008 is a tire pressure warning system, as well as sportier bucket seats with convenient seat cushion and seatback storage, a leather-wrapped shift knob, AM/FM and CD stereo with auxiliary input jack and six speakers, rear-window defogger and rake-adjustable steering wheel.

On the open road, the Solstice is a surprisingly decent high-speed cruiser for a small roadster. If you do use it for a long trip, though, plan to travel light. Luggage space varies from minimal (with the roof up) to marginal when the folding cloth top is stowed beneath that sexy rear deck.

You won't find many places to put things in the passenger area either — not even small things like a cellphone, iPod, purse or other personal items. For people, however, the cockpit is cosy yet roomy.

And if you like the Solstice's looks but don't care for its convertible aspect, Pontiac plans to expand the 2009 model-year lineup with a new, sleek coupe GXP model.

The coupe is equipped with a removable roof that enables an open-air driving experience yet offers a greater range of all-season driving opportunities.

2008 Pontiac Solstice

Type: Compact 2-pass. convertible RWD
Price: $27,670 – $35,800
Engine: 2.4L L4 DOHC/2.0L L4 DOHC turbo
HP: 173 @5,800 rpm/260 @5,300 rpm
Torque: 167 @ 4,500 rpm/260 @ 2,500 rpm

Highlights

- Drop-dead gorgeous
- Surprisingly affordable
- GXP powertrain
- Comfortable ride

Volkswagen sets date with 2028

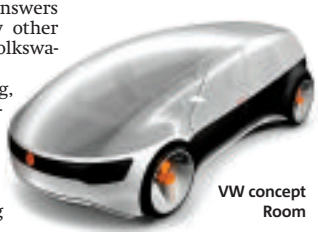
When will cars communicate with traffic lights? Will there be traffic jams in the future? Can driving emission-free vehicles be fun?

Automobile fans of all ages can find informative and entertaining answers to these and many other questions at www.Volkswagen2028.com.

The Wolfsburg, Germany-based automaker offers its vision of the automotive world 20 years from now in this groundbreaking web special.

The lavishly designed website centres around a short interactive film that gives the viewer an informative and entertaining introduction to the subject.

In the film, which takes place in 2028, a father tells his son about the automobile world of 20 years ago, while the present-day Internet user can select any of numerous links to take a look at the automotive future.



VW concept Room

Online

- For more information, visit www.Volkswagen2028.com

Developers and designers from Volkswagen Research accompany users on their journey and explain the visions of tomorrow's automotive world in simple language, providing fascinating insights into today's technological approaches aimed at paving the way for a sustainable and innovative future.

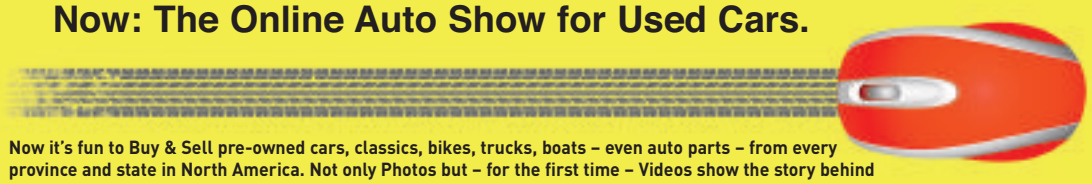
At the same time, these insights underscore the Volkswagen brand's claim to already epitomize "Das Auto," and the brand's vision to be the world's most innovative high-volume automaker.

"Our designers and developers have created three innovative vehicle concepts exclusively for this web special in order to illustrate the automotive world of tomorrow. We have called them 'one,' 'ego,' and 'room.'

"They give an idea of the shape that our visions of the future could take. They demonstrate how the cars of the future can communicate with traffic lights, how holographic displays in the cockpit can assist the driver and how we can generate even more driving pleasure and still keep our cars emission-free," Jochen Sengpiehl, head of passenger car marketing, explained.

VW concept Ego

Now: The Online Auto Show for Used Cars.



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Smart Fortwo turns 10

Trendy compact close to million in sales since launch

Ten years ago, in early July, 1998, a vehicle with an entirely new concept first rolled off the assembly line in Hambach, France: The Smart Fortwo. Since then, the compact two-seater has become the vehicle of choice of more than 900,000 buyers in 37 countries.

The Smart Fortwo soon gained cult status and is the only automobile that is still in production to be displayed at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

The tiny car's introduction to Canada came in October 2004. Since then 12,413 Smarts have found happy homes here.

Now it is being sold in the U.S. and starting from mid-2009, it will also be available in China. For 2010, the first Smart electric drive of the current vehicle generation is planned.

Since its market launch, the Smart Fortwo has enjoyed impressive sales development. The trendy two-seater has become successfully established in the market during this time.

The Smartfortwo is the only automobile in production to be displayed at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mercedes-Benz began designing the "Car of the Future" in the 1970s, when it thought of taking revolutionary approaches to create a super-compact automobile.

In 1989, Nicolas G. Hayek, the inventor of the Swatch, attracted the interest of Mercedes-Benz to create a small car for city driving.

12,413
Smart cars sold in Canada since their national launch in 2004.

The two partners established the Micro Compact Car AG, headquartered in Biel, Switzerland. The Smart Fortwo celebrated its world premiere at the 1997 Frankfurt auto show. In a move that expressed the company's commitment to Europe, the French town of Hambach was chosen as the production site. The plant began production in 1997 with sales of the Fortwo starting in October 1998.

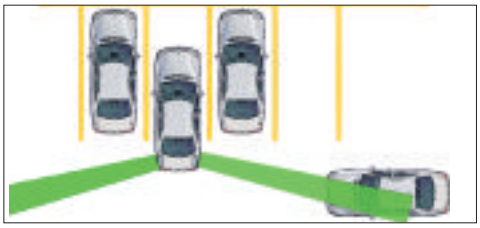
Chrysler unveils cutting-edge tech

GADGETRY Chrysler recently announced a barrage of new engineering and technology features that will debut on its 2009 products.

In-vehicle wireless Internet connectivity basically turns a vehicle into a "hot spot," offering high-speed web connectivity. It will be offered on new models as well as through the automaker's MOPAR aftermarket lineup.

Rear Cross Path (available on the '09 Town & Country and Grand Caravan minivans) is an industry exclusive, warning drivers backing out of parking spaces of traffic moving toward their vehicle outside their field of vision. Drivers are alerted via an illuminated icon on the side view mirror and an audible chime.

Another feature is Active Transfer Case and Front-axle Disconnect, offered by no other major manufacturer and debuting on the Chrysler 300 and Dodge Charger models, which seamlessly transitions between rear- and all-wheel drive by disconnecting the front axle and opening the transfer case from the drivetrain, reducing friction, rotational mass and improving fuel economy.



The graphic illustrates Chrysler's new technology that warns drivers backing out of parking spaces about traffic.

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LEASE FOR $298# @ LEASE APR 2.9%£
PER MONTH FOR 48 MONTHS WITH $3,927 DOWN ON APPROVED CREDIT
GasCard Σ $1,000
CR-V LX model RE3838E
GET YOUR CR-V SPORT PACKAGE FOR JUST $15 MORE PER MONTH ON ANY 2008 CR-V 48 MONTH LEASE
CR-V SPORT PACKAGE: • Roof Rack • Chrome Side Steps • Chrome Exhaust Finisher
INSTALLED VALUE $1,426 YOU PAY ONLY $998 EXTRA VALUE $428¥
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#Limited time lease offers based on new 2008 Accord Sedan LX, model CP2538E / 2008 Odyssey DX, model RL3818E / 2008 CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3838E available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. £2.9% / 1.9% / 2.9% lease APR for 48 / 48 / 48 months. Monthly payment is $298 / $338 / $298 with $2,455.23 / $4,552.13 / $3,927.44 down payment or equivalent trade. $1,390 / $1,540 / $1,540 freight and PDI, first monthly payment and $0 / $0 / $0 security deposit due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $18,937.93 / $23,477.03 / $20,601.53. Taxes, license insurance and registration are extra. 96,000 / 96,000 / 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. †Limited time financing offers based on new 2008 Honda models. Finance example based on new 2008 Accord Sedan LX, model CP2538E available through Honda Financial Services on approved credit. ‡MSRP is $25,090 plus $1,390 freight and PDI, financed at 0.9% APR equals $745.81 per month for 36 months. Cost of borrowing is $369.01 for a total obligation of $26,849.01. Taxes, license, insurance and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order / trade may be necessary. ΣΣ2,000 / $1,000 Gas Card offers apply only to retail customer purchase, lease or finance agreements for new 2008 Odysseys, 2008 Accords, 2008 CR-Vs concluded, respectively, between July 1st, 2008 and July 31st, 2008. $2,000 / $1,000 Gas Card offers include GST, PST, HST, QST where applicable. Some conditions apply. Valid only on purchase, lease or finance agreements concluded at Mississauga Honda. See your Mississauga Honda for full conditions and details. ¥Based on the retail value of installed additional equipment and price difference of CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3838E versus CR-V LX 2WD, model RE3838E with accessories installed. #/£/†/Σ/¥Offers valid from July 1st, 2008 through July 31st, 2008 at Mississauga Honda. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. See Mississauga Honda for full details. ‡Based on a 2008 Accord with 2.4L engine and manual trans. / 2008 Odyssey with 3.5L engine, automatic trans. and Variable Cylinder Management™ System / 2008 CR-V 2WD with 2.4L engine and automatic trans. Visit www.vehicles.gc.ca for more information.

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2008 NISSAN SENTRA 2.0

LEASE FOR $198** PER MTH FOR 60 MTHS EXCLUDES FREIGHT & PDE

LEASE RATE 1.9% $0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

NISSAN GAS ADVANTAGE. CITY: 8.3L/100KM (34MPG), HIGHWAY: 6.4L/100KM (44MPG)

2.0 S model shown

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MTHS.‡

Awarded "Top Safety Pick" by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

LE AWD model shown

"Best New SUV/CUV Under $35,000"

$1,000 ecoAUTO REBATE[3]

2.5 SL AWD model shown

NEW 2009 NISSAN MURANO S AWD

LEASE FOR $398** PER MTH FOR 48 MTHS EXCLUDES FREIGHT & PDE

LEASE RATE 3.9% $5,125 DOWN PAYMENT

$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

NISSAN GAS ADVANTAGE. CITY: 11.8L/100KM (24MPG), HIGHWAY: 8.7L/100KM (32MPG)

3.5 SE model shown

"Most Appealing Midsize Car in the U.S."[2] – *J.D. Power and Associates*

2008 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 S CVT

LEASE FOR $298** PER MTH FOR 48 MTHS EXCLUDES FREIGHT & PDE

LEASE RATE 2.5% $0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

BEST IN CLASS FUEL ECONOMY[1]

CITY: 8.9L/100KM (32MPG), HIGHWAY: 6.3L/100KM (45MPG)

ALL-NEW 2008 NISSAN ROGUE 2.5 S FWD

LEASE FOR $268** PER MTH FOR 48 MTHS EXCLUDES FREIGHT & PDE

LEASE RATE 3.9% $2,999 DOWN PAYMENT

$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT

NISSAN GAS ADVANTAGE. CITY: 9.1L/100KM (31MPG), HIGHWAY: 7.2L/100KM (39MPG)

NEW 2009 NISSAN VERSA 1.8 S HATCHBACK

1.8 SL model shown

HIGH ON FUEL EFFICIENCY. NEW LOW PRICE. $13,598**

CITY: 7.9L/100KM (36MPG), HIGHWAY: 6.3L/100KM (45MPG)

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*Purchase or lease a new 2008 Nissan Sentra, Altima Sedan, Altima Coupe, Rogue, Pathfinder or 2009 Murano model between July 1st and August 31st, 2008 and save 20 cents per litre with Nissan's Preferred Price™ Card on 2500 litres of fuel at Petro-Canada™ retail locations. Nissan's Preferred Price Card will be activated within 72 hours of purchase/lease of an eligible Nissan vehicle. 40% purchase financing for up to 60 months available only on 2008 Sentra models. [1]Best in class fuel economy claim is based on 2007 Nissan Altima vs. non-hybrid competitors in Lower-Middle Sedan Category. [2]Nissan Altima Sedan received the highest numerical score among midsize cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2007 U.S. Automotive Performance, Execution and Layout Study SM. Study based responses from 91,335 new vehicle owners, measuring 250 models and measures opinions of consumers after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of consumers surveyed in February-May 2007. Your experiences may vary. Visit idpower.com [3]You may be eligible for the Government of Canada's ecoAUTO rebate program. ecoAUTO rebate and fuel consumption estimates based on 2008 Rogue FWD. Actual mileage may vary with driving conditions – use for comparison only. **Lease Examples: $16,798 MSRP for a 2008 Sentra 2.0 (C4LG58 AA00) at 1.9% lease rate for a 60 month term. Monthly payment is $198 with $0 down payment, $0 security deposit, $1,300 freight and PDE, license, levies, insurance, registration and taxes, due at lease inception. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $11,880. For a 2009 Murano S AWD (B5LG59 AA00) at 3.9% lease rate for a 48 month term. Monthly payment is $398 with $5,125 down payment, and $0 security deposit. $1,400 freight and PDE, license, levies, insurance, registration and taxes, due at lease inception. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $24,229. For a 2008 Rogue 2.5 S FWD (W6RG18 AA00) at 3.9% lease rate for a 48 month term. Monthly payment is $268 with $2,999 down payment, $0 security deposit, $1,400 freight and PDE, license, levies, insurance, registration and taxes, due at lease inception. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year with excess charged at $0.10/km. Total lease obligation is $15,863. $13,598 MSRP for a new 2008 Versa Hatchback 1.8 S (B5LG59 AA00). $1,175 freight and PDE, license, levies, insurance, registration and taxes, due at lease inception. Finance example for a 2008 Sentra 2.0 (C4LG58 AA00): $16,798 MSRP, including $1,225 freight and PDE, financed at 0% APR for 60 months equals $196.63 per month with $5,000 down payment. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $16,798. Up to $84 PPSA and taxes are extra. Lease and finance offers available on Nissan vehicles on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles may require factory order. Offers available for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers.*

A Ford shade of green

Automaker's HySeries Drive eco-friendly technology with a difference

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

Ford of Canada picked a perfect day recently to invite us out to its corporate headquarters in Oakville for a glimpse at the company's future technology, the Edge HySeries Drive.

It was a fitting location as the regular Edge, and its Lincoln MKX sibling, are built here. But beyond a shell and some interior pieces, the Edge HySeries Drive concept shares very little with its common-engined kin.

Ford's HySeries Drive system is essentially a battery-powered plug-in hybrid. But instead of marrying it to a traditional gasoline or diesel powerplant to recharge the batteries when drained, there's a hydrogen fuel cell in its place. Rather than having the fuel cell power the wheels directly, as was the case in earlier fuel-cell vehicles, HySeries Drive operates like a generator, to recharge the drive batteries.

Ford claims the Edge HSD can operate in "battery mode" for 40 km at speeds of more than 130 km/h.

Ford claims the Edge HSD can operate in "battery mode" for 40 km at speeds of more than 130 km/h; when the fuel cell kicks in, it adds another 320 km to the range. Larger hydrogen tanks (currently under experiment) would increase range even more.

The battery can be charged overnight in your garage, and Ford says it only takes five minutes to fill the tank (4.5 kg) with hydrogen.

All this adds up to an EPA combined city/highway fuel economy rating of 5.7 L/100 km, and the Edge HSD is a zero-emissions vehicle, meaning only water vapour is expelled through the exhaust.

The other Canadian connection in this is Ford's working relationship with B.C.'s Ballard Fuel Systems, (which coincidentally sold its automotive fuel cell assets to both Ford and Daimler AG earlier this year). Ballard supplies a 35 kW stack for the HySeries Drive to recharge the 130 kW lithium-ion batteries.

First impressions of the Edge HSD during our brief drive are very good. Subtract the giant grey plastic arches and 22-inch wheels, and this concept looks like any other Edge on the road. Inside, it's very similar, with only the gauge pod and navigation system giving way to unique dials and screens.

Filling the gap

- While the HSD and other hydrogen technology are in the "long-term" portion of Ford's plan for sustainability, expect things like new turbocharged, direct-injection gasoline EcoBoost engines, a renewed push on traditional gasoline-electric hybrids and introductions with clean turbodiesel and plug-in hybrids to fill the gap in the meantime.

Chevrolet

Cash grab at the London launch of Chevy's penny billboard.

Penny billboard stops traffic

ADVERTISING Londoners grabbed pocketfuls of pennies recently at the launch of a 20-foot billboard ad made entirely from one-pence coins. The unique installation — made using more than 20,000 pennies — only lasted 30 minutes as hundreds of passersby seized their moment to pick up a penny or two. The unique billboard was unveiled in London's New Oxford Street to advertise the 769,500-pence (7,695 pounds) starting price of the new Chevrolet Aveo. Chevrolet's Les Turton comments: "There have been some great car ads before, but none that has stopped traffic and actually put money back into the motorist's pocket."

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vw.ca

*MSRP of $16,900 for a 2008 City Jetta with 5-speed manual transmission. Freight and PDI of $1,335, PPSA, licence, insurance, registration, dealer charges, options and all applicable taxes are extra. **Limited time lease offer on approved credit available through Volkswagen Finance, a division of VW Credit Canada Inc. 48-month lease offer applies to new and in-stock 2008 City Jetta / Jetta Sedan with 5-speed manual transmission, base model with MSRP of $16,900/$21,975. Freight and PDI of $1,335, PPSA, license, insurance, registration, dealer charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. Monthly payment is $199/$249 at 1.5% lease APR with $1,240/$2,494 down payment. $250/$300 security deposit, PPSA and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total obligation of $10,792/$14,446. $0.12/km over 80,000 km charged at lease end. MSRP of 2008 City Jetta as shown is $20,503 with Siata accessory wheels. MSRP of 2008 Jetta Sedan as shown is $23,310. Dealer may sell/lease for less. At participating Volkswagen dealerships only. Offer ends July 31, 2008 and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Supplies limited. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo and "Jetta" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. ©2008 Volkswagen Canada.

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50 MPG FUEL ECONOMY** HIGHWAY 5.7L/100km CITY 8.5L/100km (33 mpg)

41 MPG FUEL ECONOMY** HIGHWAY 6.9L/100km CITY 10.1L/100km (28 mpg)

37 MPG FUEL ECONOMY** HIGHWAY 7.7L/100km CITY 12.2L/100km (23 mpg)

2008 FORD FOCUS SE
WITH AIR CONDITIONING AND MP3 PLAYER

MSRP: (DEALER MAY SELL FOR LESS) $17,399*

YOUR FAMILY PRICE: **$15,908***

Plus freight $1,150

$1,491* PRICE ADJUSTMENT

0%‡ APR PURCHASE FINANCING up to **36** months on all 2008 Focus SE and SES Models.

2008 FORD FUSION SE
CREATE A REACTION

MSRP: (DEALER MAY SELL FOR LESS) $23,899*

YOUR FAMILY PRICE: **$19,768***

Plus freight $1,250

$4,131* PRICE ADJUSTMENT

0%‡ APR PURCHASE FINANCING up to **36** months on all 2008 Fusion Models.

2008 FORD MUSTANG V6
OWN A LEGEND

MSRP: (DEALER MAY SELL FOR LESS) $24,799*

YOUR FAMILY PRICE: **$19,376***

Plus freight $1,250

$5,423* PRICE ADJUSTMENT

7.99%‡ APR PURCHASE FINANCING up to **60** months on all 2008 Mustang V6

TO GET YOUR FAMILY PRICE VISIT FORD.CA OR YOUR FORD STORE

*DEALER MAY SELL FOR LESS

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WISE BUYERS READ THE LEGAL COPY: Offers Valid in Ontario only. †† **Based on the 2008 Ford Focus SE / 2008 Ford Fusion SE I4 / 2008 Ford Mustang V6 Family Price before freight, license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and all applicable taxes.** *Ford Family Pricing is only in effect from July 1st to September 2nd, 2008 at participating Ford of Canada Dealerships. Ford Family Pricing is available on most new 2008 and 2009 Ford vehicles (excluding Mustang Shelby GT 500, F-150 Chip Foose Edition, LCF and Medium Truck). The new vehicle must be delivered or ordered from your Ford Dealer on or before September 2nd, 2008. Ford Family Pricing does not include freight, license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees, fuel fill charge and all applicable taxes. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Ford Family Pricing is raincheckable. Ford Family Pricing is not available on any vehicle receiving Competitive Price Allowance or Government Price Concession, SBIP, CFIP, Fleet Delivery Allowance, Daily Rental Incentives or the Ambassador Program. The Price Adjustment includes the Family Pricing Discount, Delivery Allowance and Purchase Delivery Allowance, as applicable. Dealer may sell for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. * Purchase a new 2008 Ford Focus SE / 2008 Ford Fusion SE I4 / 2008 Ford Mustang V6 / 2008 Ford Eddie Bauer Expedition 4x4 / 2008 Ford SuperDuty Crew Cab DRW Lariat 4x4 at MSRP for $17,399/$23,899/$24,799/$54,299/$63,399 or with Ford Family Pricing for only $15,908/$19,768/$19,376/$42,427/$55,473 after total price adjustment of $1,491/$4,131/$5,423/$11,872/$7,926 deducted (Total price adjustment is a combination of delivery allowance $0/$2,250/$0/$5,250/$0, purchase delivery allowance $0/$0/$3,500/$0/$0 and family pricing discount $1,491/$1,981/$1,923/$6,622/$7,926). Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after total price adjustment deducted. ‡ Or choose 0.0%/0.0%/7.99%/0.0% APR purchase financing on all 2008 Ford Focus SE and SES models / 2008 Ford Fusion / 2008 Ford Mustang V6 / 2008 Ford SuperDuty F-250 – F-550 for a maximum of 36/36/60/60 months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit from Ford Credit. E.g., $20,000 purchase financed at 0.0%/0.0%/7.99%/0.0% purchase APR for 36/36/60/60 months, monthly payment is $555.56/$555.56/$405.43/$333.33 cost of borrowing is $0/$0/$4,325.93/$0 or APR of 0.0%/0.0%/7.99%/0.0% and total to be repaid is $20,000/$20,000/$24,325.93/$20,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit. All offers exclude freight (2008 Focus/2008 Fusion/2008 Mustang V6/2008 Expedition/2008 SuperDuty freight of $1,150/$1,250/$1,250/$2,000/$1,300), license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and all applicable taxes. *** Fuel efficiency figures based on the 2008 Ford Focus/2008 Ford Fusion/2008 Ford Mustang, EnerGuide 2008. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories.Dealer may sell for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. • Some conditions may apply to the Graduate Recognition Program. See Dealer for details.

Ontario FDA, P.O. Box 2000, Oakville, Ontario L6J 5E4

Toys that go vroom

Hot Wheels' Ford Focus

Some of this year's hottest summer toys are Ford official licensed products.

Although thousands of items — from T-shirts, caps and jackets to desk accessories, wall art and fragrances — bear the name of a Ford brand, toy manufacturers represent the majority of the company's 300 licensees.

Hot Wheels Road Trip

- The Hot Wheels Road Trip will be making a pit stop at the Toronto Zoo this Friday. The event celebrates the 40th anniversary of Mattel Canada. For more information on the road trip, visit www.hotwheelscanada.ca

"We're building a relationship with the consumer that starts when they're just a kid," said John Nens, director, Ford Global Brand Licensing. "They'll always remember the great time they had with their favourite Ford ride-on toy or Matchbox-sized car, and they will carry that relationship with the brand all the way to when they finally start buying vehicles."

Each year, Ford receives hundreds of product proposals from various toymakers, but not all receive the nod from Nens and his team.

According to Nens, the Mustang and F-150 are the most popular brands.

"Licensing is really a reflection of our products," he said. "And the Mustang and F-150 are the company's top vehicles in terms of sales and popularity."

According to Nens, some of the most popular toys — available at mass market retailers such as Wal-Mart, Target and Kmart — include the Toy State Road Rippers Ford Flex with Light and Sound, a colourful toy cruising to retailers' shelves now, the same time the all-new 2009 Ford Flex is arriving at dealerships throughout the country. It moves back and forth and plays the '80s hit, Walking on Sunshine.

Though it's not an exact replica of Ford's newest crossover, the body is 100 per cent accurate proportionally, says Nens.

Another popular choice is the High School Musical 2 Mustang Fabulous Sharpay Doll. Who could forget the monogrammed pink Ford Mustang convertible that Sharpay Evans — played by teen star Ashley Tisdale — drove around the country club in the Disney Channel Original Movie High School Musical 2.

Others on the hot toys list include the Fisher-Price Power Wheels Ford F-150 with Monster Traction, Hot Wheels 2008 new models such as the '08 Ford Focus, Ridemakerz, MP3 players shaped like cars, a remote control Ford GT, Ford Flex Power Racer and others.

The all-new Ford Flex toy.

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Available in AWD

All-new 09 Corolla CE

- 1.8 L, 132 hp VVT-i engine
- 5-speed manual transmission
- ABS with Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD)
- 6 standard airbags • Wider and roomier interior • Tilt and telescopic steering wheel
- Accessory power outlets & more

LOWER PRICE STARTING FROM $14,565 MSRP¥*
PURCHASE FINANCING 5.9% APR¥ FOR 60 MONTHS
LEASE FOR $199*@6.9% APR per month for 48 months with $2,353 down. Freight and P.D.E. included

HWY 5.6L/100 KM (50 MPG)† CITY 7.5L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

All-new 09 Matrix

- 1.8 L, 132 hp VVT-i engine
- 5-speed manual transmission
- Tilt and telescopic steering wheel • ABS with Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD)
- 6 standard airbags • Spacious cargo deck with 60/40 split folding rear seats • Optitron electronic gauges & more

LOWER PRICE STARTING FROM $15,705 MSRP¥*
PURCHASE FINANCING 4.9% APR¥ FOR 36 MONTHS
LEASE FOR $199*@6.9% APR per month for 48 months with $3,103 down. Freight and P.D.E. included

HWY 6.2L/100 KM (46 MPG)† CITY 7.8L/100 KM (36 MPG)†

The all-new Corolla and Matrix will surprise you with every turn:

POWER TO SPARE
Choose between a 1.8-litre or 2.4 litre engine with 158 hp.

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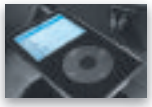
Helps keep occupants' heads properly positioned in the event of a rear-end collision.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Toyota grad program

Caterham packs punch

FAST CARS And you thought Nissan's GT-R was silly fast. Caterham Cars — the well-known U.K. outfit still building a variant of Colin Chapman's iconic Lotus 7 — recently unveiled its new R500 model, a 506-kg featherweight that can run from zero to 60 mph in an amazing 2.8 seconds.

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Travel

Hotel Karl

Chanel designer Karl Lagerfeld is set to create a series of fashion-themed boutique hotels and luxury villas for Dubai's Isla Moda, the world's first dedicated fashion archipelago. METRO WORLD NEWS

Berlin's hippest 'hoods

JENNIFER LESIEUR
Metro World News

Imagine a city eight times the size of Paris, with hardly any more inhabitants. Imagine parks and roads like gigantic sports pitches. Imagine rent and dinners that are half the price of most of Europe.

Berlin isn't necessarily the most beautiful city in the world, but it is one of the most pleasant. It's no surprise that it's a magnet for a wide range of creative types, from artists to musicians. Following are some of the city's trendiest neighbourhoods; explore them by foot or, as Berliners would, by bicycle.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Shopping for streetwear in Berlin.

Kreuzberg

Take a walk down Zossener Strasse and loiter a while at Soultrade-Scratch records, and its neighbour, Space Hall, the best record shop to go to for the latest CDs from Berlin indie labels including Kitty-Yo and BPitch, *soultrade.de*. Just below, Bergmann Strasse is a quiet little road where the café terraces sit side by side with flea markets and upmarket boutiques.

Stop at Bagage, where all sorts of cutting-edge bags hang from the walls and brands include Kultbag and Bereitschaftstasche. Two metro stations away is the start of Oranienstrasse. It would be impossible to count the design shops here — there's nothing else! Fashionistas should navigate toward the immense space that's home to local fashion label UVR Connected (*uvr-connected.de*), then move on to the designs for sale at Cherry Bomb. Hit the Videodrom Shop, a pop culture paradise, for an impressive choice of films, books and mainstream gadgets.

Prenzlauer Berg

The Prenzlauer Berg area stretches out around the metro station at Eberswalder Strasse. Lose yourself in Pappelallee, Schliemann Strasse and Duncker Strasse before ordering a bespoke bag made from recycled materials at Tausche, at Helmholtzplatz, *tausche-berlin.de*.

Walk down Kastanienallee (where you'll find Prater, the oldest biergarten in the city) and stray down the roads just off it, where artists have transformed the buildings and created little stores where variety is king. Second-hand clothing fans should visit Schwedter Strasse, a tranquil street lined with pretty cafes.

Mitte

You'll find the main streetwear brands — including Carhartt, Crumpler, Wesc and Vans — along and around Oranienburger Strasse, the main road running through the Mitte district. Try on hundreds of unique sunglasses at Funkstore, then buy clothes to go with them, *www.funkstore.com*. Rosenthaler Strasse is streetwear paradise, and skaters meet up at Titus Shop on Spandauer Strasse, *titus.de*.

For hip homewares, stroll toward Neue Schoenhauser Strasse and stop at Schoenhauser, *www.schoenhauser-design.de*, where you'll find everything from '50s stools to an ashtray made from boiled cardboard.

Next, walk up Alte Schonhauser Strasse, base camp of local fashion labels such as Skunkfunk. Next design destination is Mykita, *www.mykita.com*, the trendy opticians on Rosa-Luxemburg Strasse. Visit for the very cool handmade, innovative, ultra-light frames, and stay to look round the dazzling showroom.

Feeling tired? It's time to take a design break: Walk to No. 17 and take a seat at Susuru, *www.susuru.de*, a funny little noodle bar with space age décor — it's chic and cheap with excellent food.

Travel tips

How to get there:
- Low-cost carriers fly to both Schoenefeld and Berlin Tegel. Both airports are 20-30 minutes by Airport Express train from the city centre.

Where to stay:
- Winter's Hotel Berlin Mitte am Checkpoint Charlie is a quiet hotel with minimalist décor, *www.winters.de*.
- Hotel Berlin Berlin on Lutzowplatz has 700 newly renovated rooms, *www.hotel-berlin-berlin.com*.

Reading matter:
- Pick up the free magazine Ein000, available in shops across the capital.

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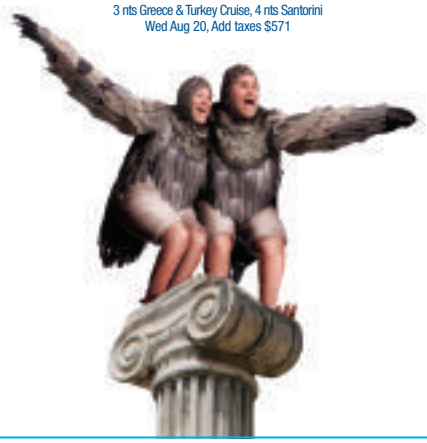

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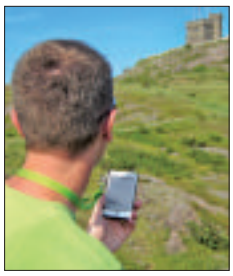
Parks Canada targets young visitors with GPS project

NEWFOUNDLAND Parks Canada hopes to attract tech-savvy young visitors with a pilot project at two sites this summer.

Multimedia hand-held GPS devices loaded with special content are being introduced at Signal Hill National Historic Site in St. John's, N.L., and Kejimkujik National Park in Nova Scotia. Hikers can use the gadgets to view text, images, sound and video.



THE CANADIAN PRESS

Using a hand-held GPS device at Signal Hill in St. John's, N.L.

At Signal Hill, the devices will present information about historical and natural features of two coastal trails. At Kejimkujik, they will have details on flora and fauna and the Mi'kmaq's relationship with the landscape.

"It's like having a field guide at your fingertips."
Tamara Tarasoff

The units can be picked up at each site's visitors centre and are free to use during this year's pilot project. "This is the first North American project like this," said Tamara Tarasoff, new media specialist for Parks Canada. Similar technology has been used at a national park in Switzerland and another in France in the past two years, said Tarasoff.

"People really like it there — and in Europe they're pretty serious hikers. It's like having a field guide at your fingertips at all time. You don't have to carry around big books. You can just carry around one little device."

Parks Canada will assess the response of visitors before deciding on future uses of the technology.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WWW.VISIT1000ISLANDS.COM

The Thousand Islands International Bridge opened in 1938.

Thousand Islands bridge gets 70th birthday bash

ONTARIO The Thousand Islands International Bridge is marking 70 years since its opening with a celebration planned for Aug. 16.

More than 85 million vehicles are estimated to have passed over the bridge system since U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Canada's Prime Minister Mackenzie King cut the ribbon on Aug. 18, 1938, before a crowd of 25,000 people.

The bridge was built in 16 months and cost $3 million US. Car rates have only doubled since the opening fee of $1.25 each way.

The bridges provide easy passage between the U.S. and Canada, linking Interstate 81 in New York and Highway 401 in Ontario, over the St. Lawrence River.

The celebration will run from noon to 3 p.m. and will include an ice cream social, a vintage car display and prizes. At night a fireworks display is planned over Boldt Castle, a six-storey, 120-room Italian Renaissance-style mansion.

The unique multi-span bridge covers about 14 kilometres, crossing the international border between Wellesley Island on the U.S. side and Canada's Hill Island. From the view on the bridges, you can see more than 200 islands.

Exactly how many islands are in the Thousand Islands region is a matter of debate. Some say there are as many as 1,700 to 1,800, though many of these are little more than a rock in the river with a tree on them. Other islands house castles, grand hotels and Victorian-style homes from the Gilded Age era when the area was a playground for rich industrialists and other wealthy vacationers.

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Travel with kids takes planning, precautions

There are pretty much two reactions when Melissa Pimentel tells friends and family about the trip to Portugal she plans to take with husband Carlos and baby daughter Malaina this summer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Travelling is more challenging with a baby or toddler, but smart planning, taking necessary precautions and adjusting expectations can bring even exotic destinations within reach.

"Some people are like, 'Oh my gosh, it's just too much of an inconvenience and too much of a hassle,'" says Pimentel, 29, of Toronto. "Their perspective is it's not much of a vacation for the parents, so they don't really see the point of doing it. Others have been very supportive, they say you shouldn't stop living just because you had a child.

"That's pretty much our philosophy. We were avid travellers before our daughter was born and we want to continue that as much as possible."

There's little reason for them and other new parents not to do exactly that.

While travelling is certainly more challenging with a baby or toddler, a combination of smart planning, taking the necessary precautions and an all-important adjustment of expectations can bring even exotic destinations within reach.

"I think most things are doable," says Dr. Mark Wise, who runs a travel clinic in Toronto and is the author of The Travel Doctor. "It's definitely not unsafe for small children to travel, the flight is not a danger to the baby. You have to be a lot more cautious if you're going off the beaten path or if you're going to poor areas where there are questions about the food or the water, or infectious diseases like malaria.

"But children are mobile," Wise says. Having them with you "keeps the family together, and it's a great way to break the ice with the local people."

There are, of course, a host of worries new parents must take into account, something Wise regularly points out to parents of Indian or African descent who are travelling home to show off their child, or less frequently to others venturing out to the pristine beaches of Southeast Asia with young ones.

He generally recommends more adventurous travellers tone things down a bit — "backpacking through Ghana and Mali to get to Timbuktu and Senegal is a bit much," he says — and start considering things they never did before. "The one priority, more for your child than for yourself, is good medical care wherever you go," he says. "I don't think you'd feel comfortable being as remote as you might want to be with children for that reason.

"You've got to anticipate things, like where to get food and water from. That's not a problem if you're going to Disney World but it is if you're going to India. What medications are you going to bring along, so you're a little self-sufficient for fevers, vomiting, diarrhea, diaper rashes, heat rashes and ear infections — stuff like that."

Even seemingly simple trips require additional planning. Corinne McDermott founded the website *www.havebabywilltravel.ca* after she and husband Darcy Fedorchuk took baby daughter Megan on an all-inclusive vacation to Cuba 2 1/2 years ago.

A self-described "travel snob" who always preferred independent travel to pre-planned packages, she quickly discovered how much more preparation was needed with Megan around, even at a resort where most of a visitor's needs are taken care of.

"Before, we never spent any time in the room. And once you have a baby — especially if they're napping, and our daughter won't nap anywhere but in her bed — you actually spend some time in your room, so we paid a little extra for a nice balcony with a view."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tips for travelling with children

- Pack everything you need and then some if you're going somewhere where baby or children's products aren't easily available.
- Long flights are easier before your child becomes mobile.
- Consider bringing both car seats and playpens, since those supplied by car rental companies and hotels can sometimes be of questionable quality.
- Make sure the room you get can accommodate all the kids gear you'll need and is comfortable enough for you to spend time in.
- Make sure you and your child get all the necessary vaccines.
- Study up on basic pediatrics and first aid so you can treat mild problems on your own.
- Treat a child's diarrhea with more urgency than you would an adult's.
- Ask your pediatrician for his e-mail or cell number so you can get some advice if med.
- Have realistic expectations for yourself and your child.

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Designers Ryan Brouwer and Randy Pease pose in front of the building they designed for Integrated Architecture in Michigan at Grand Haven State Park. The new environmentally friendly toilet-shower building is the first of its kind in the state park system.

Campground pitstops go for ecological correctness

MICHIGAN When nature calls, campers at Michigan's Grand Haven State Park can now go "green" at a new, environmentally friendly toilet-shower building that is the first of its kind in the state park system.

Construction on a similar facility at Otsego Lake State Park near Gaylord is scheduled to begin this fall. Officials hope to eventually replace all the restrooms at Michigan's 97 state parks and recreation areas with buildings like the one in Grand Haven, which opened in May.

"This is the first of its kind, so we kind of get to be the ones to test it out," says Patrick Whalen, supervisor of Grand Haven State Park.

The water- and energy-efficient product, designed by Grand Rapids-based Integrated Architecture LLC, features natural daytime lighting, artificial nighttime lighting triggered by occupancy detectors, timer-controlled showers with on-demand water heaters and reduced-flow shower heads, and low-flow toilets and urinals.

A small array of solar panels on the roof supplements the electricity used for the building's ventilation system. Building materials, including masonry, metal and wood, were selected for their long-term maintenance qualities. A new sanitary sewer line should mean a safer watershed.

> "This is the first (facility) of its kind, so we get to be the ones to test it out."
> Patrick Whalen

Green restrooms are a trend at recreation areas around the United States, with some opting for composting toilets that require no water. These bathrooms are billed as being clean and odour-free, and an improvement over portable potties or outhouses found in parks without easy access to water and sewer lines. Advanced Composting Systems of Whitefish, Mont., has installed composting toilets in places ranging from California's Mount Shasta to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park to the Grand Canyon.

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Prison break

Philippines penitentiary not your usual tourist getaway

The Travel Junkie

A popular tourist zone in the Philippines, Palawan is home to world-class diving, a UNESCO-protected underground cave — and the Iwahig Prison/Penal Farm.

It's an open-air penitentiary that is both working institution and tourist attraction. With some 3,000 prisoners living in this "prison without walls," tourists are welcome to browse and buy handicrafts made by inmates.

This unusual place opened in 1904 and was intended to isolate "the worst and incorrigible" offenders on this small island. Today, Iwahig prison is divided into four subcolonies with 133 inmates in maximum security, 2,220 in medium and 769 in minimum security.

Inmates work in "agro-industries," toiling away under the afternoon sun in what looks like a farming community. Some of the convicts are even allowed to live there with their families!

There are no visible walls, barbed wire fences or guards with guns, only hectares of rice paddies with men hard at work. It would be difficult for any prisoner to arrange for transport off the island and head counts are conducted regularly. Thus, escape attempts are rare.

I find myself at the entrance of the prison, trying to talk to Ramirez, the security guard, into letting our team film inside the prison. Our Word Travels tourist group had come to Palawan specifically to film this place but without the prior permission of the justice department, we are immediately shut down.

The guard says I can enter as a tourist and check out the souvenir shop, but no cameras are allowed. Stonewalled, I concede, and hop in our vehicle for a quick drive through the premises.

Groups of unconfined inmates are weeding by hand in fields. The colour of their T-shirts indicate the status of their sentences: Brown means minimum security, blue means medium and orange T-shirts (which tourists don't see because they are kept in a conventional prison with armed guards) are for maximum security inmates.

JULIA DIMON/FOR METRO CANADA

At the Iwahig Prison/Penal farm, some of the inmates are even allowed to bring along their families to live with them.

On the way to the souvenir shop, we drive through a quaint suburb that houses the prison staff. Life seems normal here, with a primary school, a little market and a groomed tennis court.

I hop out of the car to check out the goods. Though authorities claim the handicrafts are made by prisoners, I'm convinced they were made in China. The shop looks like any other tourist trap you'd see around here. Cheap necklaces, turtle-shaped ashtrays, woven baskets and … wooden nunchucks? Selling weapons at a prison is probably not the greatest of ideas.

Outside the shop, business transactions with inmates is an official no-no. Had I known this, I wouldn't have purchased a most unusual souvenir.

I'm seated in the back of the car. A medium security inmate approaches the driver's side with something under his shirt. Turns out, inmates are clandestinely selling their prison uniforms to tourists. I watch as the driver and the inmate negotiate an illegal transaction.

It has the secrecy of a drug deal, except the only thing I score is cotton. This blue T-shirt, inscribed with the Iwahig logo, costs me the equivalent of $5. The trade happens so quickly I'm left with a strange token of my trip and uneasy feelings about the underground economy I'd just supported.

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Quick trip **Olympic commuting goes high-speed**

ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Railway employees clean the new high-speed CRH3 train yesterday as it arrives at the Tianjin Railway Station, China, during a trial run, The new high-speed train linking Beijing and Tianjin, where Olympic soccer matches will be played, can run at speeds up to 350 kph and will cut the travel time between the two Olympic cities from 1 hour, 10 minutes to 25-30 minutes.

Observatory in Algonquin is now open to visitors

ALGONQUIN PARK For the first time since it was commissioned in 1965, Canada's largest radio telescope has been opened to the public for visits.

The Algonquin Radio Observatory is located in northern Ontario's Algonquin Provincial Park, at a 40-hectare site on Lake Travers. The observatory's 46-metre dish is the largest antenna in Canada and one of the largest in the world. During guided tours, guests can meet with staff and scientists and learn about radio astronomy and space science.

The observatory is operated by Thoth Technology, a Canadian space company that uses the dish to provides tracking and communications services for spacecraft. State-of-the-art scientific equipment on-site includes an atomic clock.

Guests can stay the night at the nearby Observatory House overlooking Lake Travers. Rates run from $155 per night, double occupancy, and include a tour of the observatory. The 14-room house has been used by astronomers when not on duty.

The observatory is about a five-hour drive from Toronto and three hours from Ottawa. For reservations, call 1-905-713-2884 or e-mail aro@thoth.ca.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

- www.arocanada.com

Feds issue yellow fever warning

BRAZIL The Public Health Agency of Canada is recommending that travellers get vaccinated against yellow fever and protect themselves from mosquito bites when going to certain parts of Brazil. Brazil's Health Ministry recently confirmed 45 human cases of yellow fever, including 25 deaths.

A map on the agency's website shows that most of the country is considered a yellow fever risk area, including the capital Brasilia. Some coastal zones, including Rio de Janeiro and Recife, are not risk areas.

Yellow fever is caused by a virus that is spread to humans through mosquito bites. Dengue fever, also spread by mosquitoes, is increasingly present in Brazil's urban areas.

In March, the country's Health Ministry confirmed a dramatic increase in cases of dengue in Rio de Janeiro. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Bad mouthing rampant for higher-up employees

Most people have friends at work, but foes could be more prevalent than one might think.

Half of advertising and marketing executives polled by The Creative Group said a colleague has tried to make them look bad on the job. Professionals who are sabotaged by a co-worker shouldn't let the situation slide, according to respondents: Seven out of 10 said it's best to confront the offender directly.

Advertising and marketing executives were asked, "In the course of your career, has a current or former colleague ever tried to make you look bad on the job?" About 50 per cent answered yes.

"In advertising or marketing — as with any competitive field — it's not uncommon for people to promote themselves at the expense of others," said Megan Slabinski, executive director of The Creative Group. "How professionals handle these situations can affect their career prospects. While you don't want to come across as a pushover, you also don't want to overreact."

The Creative Group offers six tips for discussing sensitive issues with coworkers:

- Give yourself time to cool down. Don't respond in the heat of the moment. Instead, wait until you are calm to start a discussion.
- Look at the situation from every angle. What were your colleague's intentions? Did you play a role in the problem? Before you confront someone, try to identify his or her motives, as well as any steps you could have taken to avoid the situation.
- Chat in person, if possible. E-mailing about a sensitive situation can lead to misinterpretation, since you don't have the benefit of body language or vocal inflection.
- Explain the impact. Rather than hurling accusations, calmly explain how your colleague's actions have made you feel. Then give him or her a chance to respond.
- Listen actively. Pay close attention to what your co-worker has to say. Even if you disagree, you'll get a better sense of how that person thinks, which can help you predict future behaviour.
- Know when to get help. Immediately alert your manager and human resources department to situations that appear serious.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

What to do?

- Respondents also were asked, "In general, what do you think is the best response when a colleague tries to make you look bad on the job?" Their responses:

1. **Confront the person:** 70 per cent;
2. **Notify their manager:** 10 per cent;
3. **Alert their colleagues:** 5 per cent;
4. **Other:** 15 per cent.

Even among higher-ups in a company, bad mouthing is present, a recent poll says.

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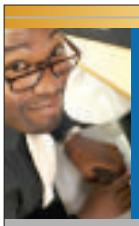
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$4.4 million for mental health research

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research announced $4.4 million in funding to support three research teams, consisting of researchers from York, Brock, McMaster and uManitoba, to investigate mental health issues. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Reinstatement rarely an option

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com

The termination of a Toronto sports icon had his fans crying foul. Rogers Centre beer vendor, Wayne McMahon, also known as the "Ice … Cold … Beer Guy," was fired last Tuesday by the Rogers Centre food and beverage service provider — for allegedly serving alcohol to a 22-year-old mystery shopper without asking for ID.

Despite the public support for McMahon, his former employer will not reinstate him — but it does not have to, as a judge will not order a former employee back to the workplace. The best McMahon could expect if he commenced legal proceedings, therefore, would be wrongful dismissal damages for losing his job.

Reinstatement is only attainable in alternative legal forums:

- Where employees pursue claims under provincial or federal human rights legislation, tribunals can order reinstatement. As well, where a wrongful dismissal claim has allegations of discrimination, Ontario courts now have the jurisdiction to order reinstatement.
- Unionized employees receive the right to reinstatement negotiated directly into their collective agreements, where arbitrators frequently award dismissed employees their jobs back.
- Non-managerial employees working for a federally regulated employer, such as a bank, or airline, can pursue an unjust dismissal complaint under the Canada Labour Code, which permits an arbitrator to award reinstatement.
- Employers who run afoul of the pregnancy and parental leave protections offered to employees under employment standards legislation often require employess to be reinstated.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal. dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Little Britain star harassed
A woman has admitted in court to harassing Little Britain star David Walliams over a four-year period. Sarah Bartholomew, 29, from Essex, England, will remain in custody while psychiatric experts decide what form of hospital treatment she needs. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Entertainment

Last laughs
Comedian Jay Leno will host his last Tonight Show May 29, NBC has said. Replacement Conan O'Brien will start the following Monday, June 1.
BBC NEWS ONLINE

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

John C. Reilly, left, and Will Ferrell star in the upcoming movie Step Brothers.

Slacker children refuse to grow up

Step Brothers exposes enabling parents

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

It's not easy being parents. But imagine if you were the parents of two slackers who never grew up. Now imagine if those spoiled delinquents were 40-somethings Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly.

This is the predicament Richard Jenkins and Mary Steenburgen face as enabling on-screen parents to the middle-aged moochers in the new comedy Step Brothers. Sure, a pair of quarrelling 40-something stay-at-home adults sounds like a ludicrous premise, but it might not be that far-fetched a scenario after all.

"We looked into it and it turned out it was a real dynamic going on," says director Adam McKay. "The increase in adults living at home has gone up drastically in the last 10 years and we were like, 'Oh my God, this is actually real.'"

It sure is. In fact, according to a recent Statistics Canada study, more than 43 per cent of Canadian young adults under the age of 29 were still living with their parents, up significantly from only two decades previous. Step Brothers isn't just joking around — it's exposing a burgeoning sociological problem.

Unlike the film, most "boomerang" adults who move back in with parents are primarily university students battling a mountain of debt. But those aren't the only financial difficulties keeping adults at home. Even if people manage to start working, entry-level positions don't even guarantee a salary anymore. As the Boston Globe's career columnist Penelope Trunk recently wrote, "the rise of the prestigious but unpaid internship intersects perfectly with the rise of the boomeranger."

Living with parents isn't a matter of choice for many, but could this trend affect attitudes toward the acceptable age for leaving home. Is it 25? How about 40?

"The increase in adults living at home has gone up drastically in the last 10 years."
director Adam McKay

Either way, while McKay insists the movie is just a zany comedy, its subtle message about parents enabling their children is definitely not lost on Step Brothers' on-screen parents.

"There's a little part of me that finds this a dream situation, believe it or not," says Steenburgen. "Thankfully I have, by some miracle, well-adjusted children that actually wanted to leave me."

Jenkins agrees. "I could've kept (my kids) around a few more years. It'd been OK with me."

Batman star denies assault story

PEOPLE Christian Bale has denied allegations of assault made by his mother and sister, hours after he was arrested, questioned by London police and released.

The 34-year-old star of The Dark Knight spent four hours at a police station, but was not charged. British media had reported that Bale's mother and sister complained he had assaulted them at the Dorchester Hotel in London on Sunday night.

Christian Bale

Representatives for Bale released a statement yesterday denying that an assault took place.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New comedy film

Fox Atomic has picked up Accidentes, a comedy pitch from Sacha Baron Cohen, left, about a lawyer of Latin descent who transforms from contingency attorney to hero of the working class. EW.COM

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Cineplex to install 175 3-D systems by end of 2009

Cineplex Entertainment has signed an agreement to have at least 175 3-D systems in movie theatres across the country by December 2009.

The agreement, announced yesterday with RealD of Beverly Hills, Calif., adds to 41 RealD systems already in place at Cineplex locations.

The dollar value of the expanded agreement was not disclosed yesterday, but the companies said it is dependent on conversion to digital projection by Toronto-headquartered Cineplex, the largest movie exhibitor in Canada with 1,337 screens at 132 theatres.

"There is an exciting slate of 3-D films scheduled for release during the next 18 months that includes Jeffrey Katzenberg's Monsters vs. Aliens in addition to about a dozen other 3-D films," Ellis Jacob, CEO of Toronto-headquartered Cineplex, said in a statement.

"This agreement allows us to provide even more guests across the country with the most advanced digital 3-D movie-going experience possible."

Cineplex Entertainment has signed an agreement that will have screens across Canada featuring digital 3-D movies by next year.

"There is an exciting slate of 3-D films scheduled for release during the next 18 months."
Ellis Jacob, CEO of Cineplex

RealD claims 90 per cent of the worldwide digital 3-D cinema market, and Katzenberg, CEO of DreamWorks Animation, was quoted in yesterday's release as prophesying that "2009 is truly shaping up to be the year of 3-D."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Family feud
Sir Sean Connery has denied leaving his son Jason out of his will — and has branded his ex-wife's claims "insane." The former Bond star has been accused by Diane Cilento — whom he was married to for 11 years — of refusing to leave his son any inheritance. IMDB.COM

Boy meets girl, music is born

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

A demure Hollywood starlet and a dishevelled troubadour: An unlikely duo, but then She & Him does like to transcend convention.

"She" is actress and pin-up girl Zooey Deschanel, notorious for her roles in the Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy and M. Night Shamalayan's The Happening. "Him" is indie-folk songwriter M. Ward, better known for his 2006 album Post-War, 2005's Transistor Radio and his cameos on recordings by Norah Jones and Cat Power.

Together, they have embarked on their first tour for debut Vol. 1, a twangy, dreamy, analog work with 1960s girl pop undertones, with a selection of cover songs such as The Beatles' I Should Have Known Better and Smokey Robinson and The Miracles' You Really Got A Hold On Me (a track the Fab Four covered themselves in 1963).

Ward says his songwriting and production experience and Deschanel's smooth, glossy vocals complement each other, and her star power affords him the opportunity to keep a svengali-like lower profile.

"I'm more than happy to share the stage with Zooey. I'm often not at my best in the front and it's nice to be able to return to the background," he said. "She's fearless and enthusiastic, and she probably has more of a connection to music than she does to acting."

"She's fearless and enthusiastic, and she probably has more of a connection to music than she does to acting."
Musician M. Ward

The pair met on the set of the 2007 indie film The Go-Getter, in which Deschanel starred and the two sang a Richard and Linda Thompson song When I Get To The Border for the ending credits.

Ward soon discovered that songwriting was a secret passion for Deschanel and that she had a litany of original tracks on her home computer, tunes she reluctantly submitted to him. Ward liked what he heard and the duet came together to record. "It was easy to do because her melodies were so good," he said, adding they're currently at work on Vol. 2.

Ward, however, does admit the duet faces the "actor band" stigma, often credited to (or blamed on, depending on whom you talk to) such vanity projects as Jared Leto's 30 Seconds To Mars, Keanu Reeves' Dogstar, and Russell Crowe's 30 Odd Foot Of Grunts.

Concert
- She & Him play the Opera House tonight.

"It can be a huge distraction when you're trying to get from point A to B, but we're both pretty good at blocking all of that out." he says.

"All of that doesn't really faze me at all. As a producer, it's my job to beat a clear-cut path to the songs we want to sing."

"She" is actress Zooey Deschanel and "Him" is indie-folk songwriter M. Ward — the duo that make up She & Him and just released their new record yesterday.

Jonas Brothers set for MTV Awards

PERFORMANCE The Jonas Brothers will perform at this year's MTV Video Music Awards. It will be the wholesome pop group's first-ever appearance at the event, known for its decadence and eye-popping water cooler moments (many involving Britney Spears).

In a statement, brothers Kevin, Joe and Nick said: "It is an honour to be a part of something so incredible."

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Kid Rock gets one year's probation and fine for fight

SENTENCE Kid Rock has been sentenced to a year's probation and fined $1,000 for his role in a fight at a suburban Atlanta Waffle House last fall.

The DeKalb County solicitor's office said the 37-year-old was also sentenced Monday to six hours of anger management counselling and 80 hours of community service.

The entertainer, whose real name is Robert J. Ritchie, pleaded no contest to one count of simple battery. Four counts of battery were dropped.

Ritchie's tour bus stopped at the Waffle House about 5 a.m. on Oct. 21 after a performance in downtown Atlanta.

An exchange of words with a customer escalated into a fight that spilled from the restaurant into the parking lot.

Ritchie and five members of his entourage were arrested.

They appeared with him in court, and two of them pleaded no contest and received similar sentences of probation and community service.

The judge dropped charges against the other three.

"After viewing the videotape, it was decided that they weren't involved," said Artealia Gilliard, spokeswoman for Solicitor General Robert D. James Jr.

Ritchie's lawyer, Darryl Cohen, said yesterday that Ritchie was "not terribly unhappy" with the outcome although he believed he was not at fault.

"I think my client is satisfied," Cohen said.

"He would have liked to have tried it. He came within a hairbreadth of going to trial."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"I think my client is satisfied. He would have liked to have tried it. He came within a hairbreadth of going to trial."
Darryl Cohen, Robert J. Ritchie's lawyer

From runway to movies

Project Runway winner Christian Siriano, left, is set to design a collection that will be showcased in the upcoming kid romp Eloise in Paris, starring newcomer Jordana Beatty as the Plaza-bred youngster. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

Music merges with fashion

NEW YORK Leave it to Vogue magazine to get the hottest names in music for its Fashion Rocks event in New York on Sept. 5, intouchweekly.com reports.

This year, singers Beyoncé, Rihanna, Justin Timberlake, Fergie, Mariah Carey, Chris Brown and Keith Urban are set to rock Radio City Music Hall for the big fashion and music spectacle.

The entire show will air on CBS on Sept. 9.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

The spotlight's on funny

Just For Laughs starts today

SANDY CAETANO
sandy.caetano@metronews.ca

Toronto's Just For Laughs Festival is back for its second year and it's pulling out the red carpet for some bigwig comedians.

The lineup includes This Hour Has 22 Minutes' Shaun Majumder, Seinfeld star Jason Alexander, SNL alumnus and future Late Night on NBC host Jimmy Fallon and SCTV alumnus and Hamilton native Martin Short.

From today through Sunday, people can check out any of these comedians and other special guests in hilariously high-concept evenings of comedy and theatrics packed with hysterical surprises from start to finish.

Short, best known for his comedy work on Second City Television and Saturday Night Live, says comedy is something that naturally brings people together and tends to push us toward the positive perspective of things.

"It's something that, first of all, everyone feels they can do, it's not like ballet or something, it's a natural instinct," explains Short. "People want to feel they're funny, they want to laugh at other people. Comedy makes you forget, it reminds you of the best things of life — it depends on the mood you're in."

A huge hit in its first year, the inaugural edition of the festival attracted 60,000 people to a wide variety of outrageous outdoor events and 20,000 more fans to the star-studded indoor shows.

The Canadian-American award-winning comedian, actor, writer, singer and producer who has starred in films like The Three Amigos, Father of the Bride and The Santa Clause 3: The Escape will be hosting two evening shows as part of this year's Just For Laughs Festival.

Short says show visitors should expect the unexpected because anything goes when he takes the reins on stage.

"I think characters will show up, yes. Jiminy Glick might show up, I'll be singing, dancing, joking, the usual," he says.

For more information visit, *www.hahaha.com/toronto.*

See the show

- Tickets for the Just For Laughs WestJet Galas and the Jeff Dunham Concert Event start at $55.50. The Ethnic Series tickets are $45.50, and Club Series tickets start at $22.

DAVID LIVINGSTON/GETTY IMAGES

Comedian, actor, writer, singer and producer Martin Short will host two evening shows as part of this year's Just For Laughs Festival.

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
7/23/08 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Life of Birds-Attenborough		The Best of The Agenda		The Virgin Queen		The View From Here		Best-Agenda
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Big Brother 10 (Live)		NCIS "Brothers in Arms"		Crime Stories		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere II	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	22 Minutes	Little Mosque	Sophie (HDTV)	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Make Me a Supermodel		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Entourage	Entourage	News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy! (N)	So You Think You Can Dance (N)				CSI: NY "Boo" (HDTV)		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Zoe Busiek: Wild Card (N)		Janice Dickinson Modeling		Mark Wahlberg: Story		News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama été	Jardins	Footsteps of Goliath		*Le Coursier* (1986, Com. dramatique)			Les Gens de...	Tournants
	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Aliens-America	Aliens-America	Metric: Live at the Metropolis		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Brother 10 (Live)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY "Boo" (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	The Baby Borrowers		The Baby Borrowers (N)		(10:01) Law & Order		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap		Supernanny		Primetime: Crime		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Wife Swap		Supernanny		(10:01) Law & Order		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance (N)				Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Mulberry	Air Travel: Zeppelin		Nova scienceNOW (N)		Voyages of Discovery		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model		Pussycat Dolls: Girlicious		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (PA)		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Fortune	The Hour Diana Krall.		CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		CNN Presents "Black in America: The Black Woman & Family"				Cooper 360
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		The Suze Orman Show		American Greed		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Baltimore Orioles. (HDTV) (Live)						Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	Boxing	ATP Tennis U.S. Open Series -- Rogers Cup -- Day 3. From Toronto.					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Departures		Cycling Tour de France Stage 17. From Embrun to L'Alpe-d'Huez, France.						Word Travels
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time (N)	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Merrie Melody	Loonatics	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Ghost World* (2001, Comedy-Drama)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Coleen's Real Women (N)		Stuck
	570	580	29	MM	Gone Wild	Gone Wild	2008 MuchMusic Video Awards				America's Best Dance Crew		Born to Be
	615	520	31	A&E	The First 48 (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Criss Angel Mindfreak		Criss Angel
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	L'Avvocato Porta				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Tip of Tongue	Tip of Tongue	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Celeb. Rehab
	575	583	38	CMT	CMT30 "Craven 2008" (N)		Ult. Coyote Ugly Search		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Tara Diaries
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Da Vinci's Inquest		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Big Love (HDTV)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	Literature Alive	Arts & Minds	Wingfield	Camera	Mad Men A rift forms.		Entourage	Bravonews	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Jamila" (N)		Work Out		Inside Hollywood (DVS)		X-Weighted
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Kill Ari"		Re-Inventors	Re-Inventors	Mob Stories		NCIS "Kill Ari"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Tom Green	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Property Shop	Big City Broker	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Flipping Out		Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	*From Dusk Till Dawn* ★★ (1996, Action) Harvey Keitel.				Frasier	Seinfeld	Friends
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date	KeAnthony	Baldwin Hills	*Hustle & Flow* ★★★ (2005, Drama) Terrence Howard, Taryn Manning.				
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager "Q2"		Smallville "Fracture"		Supernatural (HDTV)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	MTV e2	Cribs	4REAL	Next	The Real World		The Real World Highlights.		
	618	524	54	TROP	TV Made, Do It	TV Made, Do It	ET Canada	Whatever	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Road Grill (N)	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		Challenge
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Chambers	No Place Like	China's Leap of Faith (N)		Year in Tibet (N)		Blue Buddha
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Marché	Vidéos	Michel Barrette, 20 ans déjà		Esprits criminels (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Ralph king*
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		Peter the Great				Traders "Killer Instinct"		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	*Eastern Promises* ★★★ (2007, Drama), Naomi Watts				*Hot Fuzz* ★★★ (2007, Comedy) Simon Pegg, Nick Frost.				*Sublime*
	305	612	306	PIX	*Hang 'Em High*	(7:20) *Danger Zone* (1996, Suspense)			*Body Snatchers* (1993, Science Fiction)			*Taken* (1998, Suspense)	

critics' corner

Law & Order

Rubirosa (Alana De La Garza) is playing for the other team — and we don't mean in the Seinfeldian sexual-orientation sense. The legal aid lawyers are on strike, so she's pressed into service as court-appointed counsel for a man (Brad William Henke) accused of murdering one of the strikers. It'll get interesting when she and Cutter (Linus Roache) face each other in court in "Strike." 10:01 PM on ACH-B NBC

Dirty Jobs

This episode about tanning is absolutely disgusting, even if you're not a member of PETA. But if you wear leather shoes or have a fondness for biker jackets, you know the cowhide had to come from somewhere. Here, viewers get to witness how leather is fashioned. Just be sure to have your finger hovering over the "previous channel" button on your remote control. 8 PM on DIS

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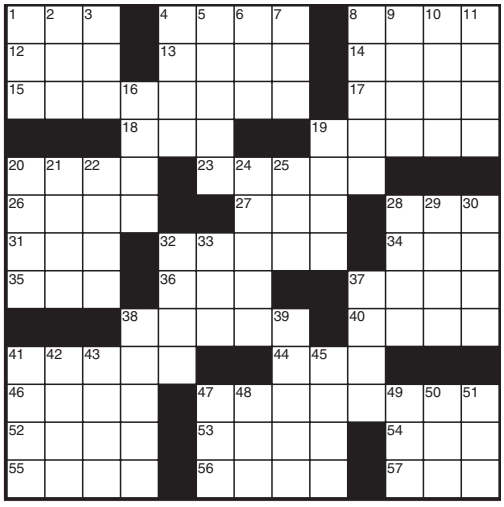
Marriage Billy Bob Thornton has vowed never to wed again after five failed attempts at marriage. The 52-year-old actor has been dating Connie Angland — the mother of his three-year-old daughter Bella — for four years. "If we get married, then the press will start calling her 'No. 6,'" he said. IMDB.COM

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Stockholm carrier
2 Boring tool
3 Golly!
4 "Moneytalks" group
5 Operated a ferry
6 Heir, often
7 It may be hard-boiled
8 Move blindly
9 Long sighs
10 El — (ocean current)
11 Latch onto
16 Pickle choice
19 Harm
20 Cry of fright
21 Perfect place
22 Burden
24 Jockey's need
25 Sick
28 Rescue
29 Nile sun god
30 Portable digs
32 Overcast
33 Same old grind
37 Clumsy vessels
38 Faculty mems.
39 Marina sight
41 Schools of whales
42 Type of rug
43 Swing a sickle
45 The — the limit!
47 Half a bray
48 Poker card
49 Pertinent
50 Like some hours
51 Hot tub

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Crossword across

1 Hang loosely
4 Basilica part
8 Turf warriors
12 Stun
13 Block
14 Complain bitterly
15 Winter fun
17 Cry of dismay (2 wds.)
18 Frost
19 — salts
20 Shout
23 Take the car
26 Singer Billy —
27 New Haven student
28 Grabbed a chair
31 Princess perturber
32 Metal grate
34 Dined on
35 Call it quits
36 Do a marathon
37 Stratford's river
38 Easy mark
40 Monthly expense
41 Deflect a blow
44 Say please
46 Two-piece cookie
47 Metal-cutting tools
52 Like Beethoven
53 "— -Breaky Heart"
54 Sparkle
55 Tree fluids
56 Moistens
57 Hot drink

previous day's answer

L	O	S		R	A	M	P		D	A	L	E
A	L	I		O	D	I	E		R	I	O	T
Z	E	N		W	O	R	K	F	O	R	C	E
Y	O	G	I	S		R	E	A	L			
		L	I		D	O	S		L	O	U	D
E	L	Y		S	I	R		M	E	T	R	O
M	O		H	A	M		P	E	R		D	U
M	O	O	E	D		C	O	N		J	U	G
A	N	K	A		I	R	E		T	E		
			D	A	N	E		I	N	T	R	O
S	N	O	W	P	L	O	W	S		S	I	P
A	U	R	A		A	L	A	I		A	T	A
O	B	E	Y		W	E	D	S		M	E	L

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This day in history

JULY 23, 1903: Ford Motor Company sells its first car.

JULY 23, 1961: Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) founded in Nicaragua.

JULY 23, 1984: Vanessa Williams becomes the first Miss America to resign when she surrenders her crown after nude photos of her appeared in Penthouse magazine.

JULY 23, 1986: In London, Prince Andrew, Duke of York, marries Sarah Ferguson at Westminster Abbey.

JULY 23, 1995: Comet Hale-Bopp is discovered and is visibly seen with the naked eye nearly a year later.

Sudoku

INSTRUCTIONS:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

7	6	1	4	8	5	3	2	9
2	4	5	7	9	3	1	6	8
9	8	3	2	6	1	4	7	5
4	3	6	8	1	2	9	5	7
5	9	8	6	4	7	2	1	3
1	2	7	3	5	9	6	8	4
6	1	9	5	7	4	8	3	2
3	7	4	1	2	8	5	9	6
8	5	2	9	3	6	7	4	1

SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:
Under 13 . . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21 . . . . . Smart
21-25 . . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A joker will keep you distracted. Anxiety has an impact on heroic actions. A friend has the simplest solution.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Be prepared for your point of view to change. Abandon a losing battle. Mockery won't help when someone is on a rampage.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Wheeling and dealing won't help you to win friends. Bad taste comes out in the open. Work undercover to figure out tricky problems.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Don't wear tacky clothes to take a stroll. Take your time to make a choice. A wrongdoer conceals his true feelings.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Someone's scattered thoughts force a decision. A fussy person will make matters worse. Complainer's failure leads to gossip.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A telephone call causes a loss of objectivity. An ignored person is prepared for an interruption. Insomnia is a problem for a zesty friend.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
It's time to recover lost support. You must wait for a woman to change her mind. Be candid when you're with a grumbler.

SCORPIO
OCT 24- NOV 22
A crazy person asks for trouble. An alert friend's words will ring true. An eager woman sets out on a splendid journey.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23- DEC 21
Become a more reassuring person. A spiteful act is forgiven. Co-operate with a sneaky guy to get ahead.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Stand firm to lecture a cantankerous person. Don't risk going into frightening places. A late meeting leads to a truce.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
You can inspire agreement if you ask for wisdom. Curiosity is caused by meddling. A trivial incident causes revelations.

PISCES
FEB 19-MAR 20
Ask friends to do some skillful scheduling. Get far away from a tainted situation. Convincing a man makes you define your feelings.

	8	9		5	7	3		
	5				4			2
			6	3				
		1				9	8	
			5		9			
	7	4				6		
				4	8			
7			3				5	
		6	2	9		1	3	

Toronto weather

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
40%				60%
Showers. 23°	Variable. 15°	Showers. 25°/17°	Partly cloudy. 27°/18°	Showers. 27°/16°

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Temperature
Normals
High: 27.6°
Low: 15.3°

Records
High: 34.7°/1999
Low: 8.6°/1981

Sunrise: 5:58 a.m.
Sunset: 8:50 p.m.
Moonset: 11:38 a.m.
Moonrise: 11:11 p.m.

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Celebrity death
Estelle Getty, star of the TV show The Golden Girls, died at her Los Angeles home yesterday morning, surrounded by family and caregivers. She was 84. TMZ.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Actor Getty confirms split from wife

SEPARATION Actor Balthazar Getty has confirmed reports he has split from his wife Rosetta, amid rumours he is having an affair with actress Sienna Miller, imdb.com reports.

The Brothers + Sisters star, 33, was photographed frolicking on a yacht off Italy's Amalfi coast with a topless Miller earlier this month, just days after he denied he was romantically involved with the Alfie star.

But Getty, who has four children with Rosetta, says the photographs have forced him to admit he and his wife are living apart.

In a statement he says, "The breakdown of a marriage is a very difficult and painful experience, especially when children are involved.

"In light of the fact that many pictures have surfaced in print and on the Internet which has caused myself and my family great embarrassment, I felt it necessary to at least acknowledge publicly that, yes indeed my wife and I have separated and I will not be commenting any further."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Madonna near breakdown?

HEALTH Madonna has sparked fears her turbulent personal life is taking its toll on her health, female-first.co.uk reports. The singer — who is rehearsing for her forthcoming world tour — has reportedly fired two dancers, while her tour manager is allegedly threatening to quit due to her "spectacular mood" swings.

Madonna has been rocked by claims her marriage to Guy Ritchie is in trouble and by allegations she is having an affair with baseball star Alex Rodriguez. Her brother Christopher released a tell-all book about her last week, which is said to have devastated her.

"Madonna is doing less than OK. She has been rehearsing for the tour and she is totally miserable," a source close to the singer revealed to Britain's The Sun newspaper.

As Madonna struggles to cope with the stress, she has been diagnosed as anaemic and the usually super-fit star has suffered a knee injury.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

'K-Fed to blame for Spears' fall'

BOUNCE BACK Britney Spears' problems can be traced back to her introduction to ex-husband Kevin Federline, Dr. Drew Pinsky explains in the new E! True Hollywood Story of her life, premiering Friday. "If you take Britney's life and put a moment in time where things started getting bad, it's the moment she got involved with Kevin Federline," Pinsky opines. Spears, 26, seems to have bounced back from her low. She is now recording a new album.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Spelling to ink mommy stories

BOOK What's life like for a new mom in 90210? Tori Spelling is ready to dish, People.com reports.

The actress, 35, is reportedly planning a new book — tentatively titled Mommywood, which will focus on her life as a Hollywood princess-turned-parent, according to publishers Simon & Schuster.

Spelling's debut effort this year, sTORI Telling, spent seven weeks on The New York Times bestseller list — and included accounts of her ill-starred first wedding, her father Aaron's death and the roller-coaster relationship with her mother, Candy.

The new book, already listed on Amazon.com and scheduled to hit the shelves in April 2009, is expected to focus on the birth and growing pains of one-year-old son Liam and newborn Stella.

She is "doing great," Spelling — who's currently starring in Tori and Dean: Home Sweet Hollywood and preparing to reprise her role in the new 90210 — recently told People. And Liam is adjusting to being a big brother.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Campbell denies hotel damage

PEOPLE Supermodel Naomi Campbell refused to pay a $400 US bill at a Russian hotel after allegedly burning its silk sheets, imdb.com reports. Campbell stayed at the Ritz Carlton in Moscow with billionaire lover Vladislav Doronin last week.

But Campbell refused to pay a hotel fine after cleaning staff claimed they found holes burnt into the room's silk bedsheets.

A spokesman for Campbell denies she caused damage to hotel property, adding, "She didn't have candles on the sheets. She did not smoke in the hotel room. It is completely untrue."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity briefs

Longoria is Desperate for kids

TV Desperate Housewives star Eva Longoria Parker has a new project — getting pregnant, The Daily Mail reports. "I can't wait!" the star told People. Fans will see a different side to her in the show. Her character is about to be a mother-of-two.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rock tired of bimbos

RELATIONSHIPS Kid Rock wishes he could lose his "bimbo attractor," female first.co.uk reports. Rock, who was previously married to Pamela Anderson, wants to avoid getting romantically involved with vacuous women.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

I WILL WEAR...
❑ A BIKINI
❑ THAT MINI SKIRT
❑ THOSE SHORT SHORTS
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Oscar talk
Maggie Gyllenhaal is backing the campaign to have her late The Dark Knight co-star Heath Ledger posthumously honoured with an Oscar. The actress believes Ledger deserves an award because his role was inspiring to other actors. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Richards denied changes in court, Sheen 'thrilled'

LEGAL BATTLE Warring exes Denise Richards and Charlie Sheen's bitter custody battle returned to the courthouse this week as the former couple disputed home video footage the actress claims proves the actor is a bad dad, imdb.com reports.

Richards' lawyer Neal Hersh called the emergency hearing in Los Angeles to review "serious issues" in the actor's home that could be damaging to the couple's kids.

Hersh handed over a videotape of their two daughters, which shows them behaving in an alarming way — according to Richards.

Neither party has divulged exactly what the video footage shows.

After consulting two expert witnesses, the judge dismissed Richards' request to alter her current custody arrangement with her ex. Sheen is now claiming victory.

Outside court Sheen's attorney said, "Charlie is thrilled with the results."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

'Real deal' for Phillippe

LOVE Reese Witherspoon and Jake Gyllenhaal's recent family vacation to Paris with her tots Ava, 8, and Deacon, 4, may have landed them on the cover of the latest Us Weekly ("He's 100 per cent committed," trumpets the mag), but at least one insider believes the Oscar winner's ex-husband could be the first to retie the knot, MSN Entertainment reports.

A confidante of Ryan Phillippe tells the Chicago Sun-Times that the actor's increasingly public romance with his Stop-Loss co-star Abbie Cornish "is really the real deal."

What's more, offers the insider, "if things keep going the way they have been," the couple, who stepped out hand-in-hand on Friday for dinner in Los Angeles, could swap vows "within the year."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Sweeney to have daughter

PREGNANCY Alison Sweeney is expecting a little girl, the soap star and Biggest Loser host tells Entertainment Tonight, People.com reports. Sweeney's daughter is expected to arrive in January, she tells ET. "I am feeling fantastic," she says. "I have moments of extreme morning sickness, but I get through it."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Knightley needed head support in Duchess

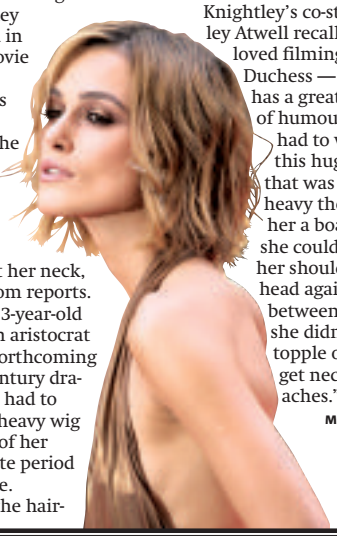
BEAUTY The wig Keira Knightley donned in new movie The Duchess was so heavy she needed a special headrest to support her neck, imdb.com reports.

The 23-year-old plays an aristocrat in the forthcoming 18th-century drama and had to wear a heavy wig as part of her elaborate period costume.

And the hairpiece was so massive, the film crew created a custom resting post to take the weight off the slender star's shoulders.

Knightley's co-star Hayley Atwell recalls, "I loved filming The Duchess — Keira has a great sense of humour. She had to wear this huge wig that was so heavy they made her a board that she could lean her shoulders and head against in between takes so she didn't topple over or get neck aches."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Moore's husband prefers her nude than dead in films

MOVIES Julianne Moore's husband doesn't object to the actress' on-screen nude scenes — because it's better than watching her play a corpse, imdb.com reports.

Moore, 47, shed her underwear in 1993 movie Short Cuts to deliver a five-minute soliloquy in the buff. But she insists her partner, filmmaker Bart Freundlich, would prefer to see her bare it all than see his wife depict a deceased character.

She says, "He's not mad about me doing nude scenes but I think he, like my mother, would rather see me naked than dead in a movie."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

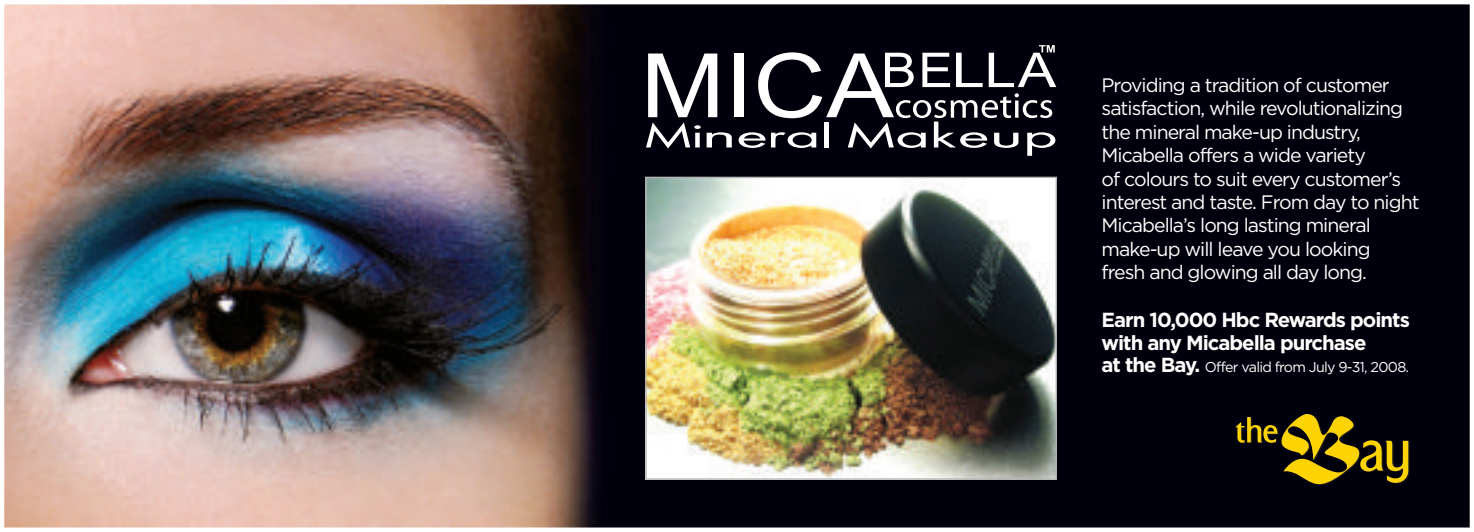
Montag to visit the Middle East

INSPIRED The Hills star Heidi Montag says her late stepbrother — who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan — has inspired her to visit the Middle East to perform for U.S. troops, People.com reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Moss still 17 at heart

PEOPLE "I'm a mum. All the time," says Kate Moss in the August issue of Vogue as she talks up just how attentive she is to five-year-old Lila, MSN Entertainment reports. Just because the supermodel, 34, is a mom, that doesn't mean she's all grown up. "I am still acting like a 17-year-old." METRO NEWS SERVICES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EX model shown

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LX-V6 Luxury model shown

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LX-V6 model shown

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